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## Ex-ministers turn on challenger

# Double blow to Howard's bid for leadership

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

MICHAEL HOWARD'S Tory leadership bid suffered a serious setback yesterday with revelations that two former ministerial colleagues plan to go public with damaging allegations about his performance as Home Secretary.

Ann Widdecombe, the Home Office Minister of State from July 1995, will break her silence over Mr Howard's controversial dismissal of Derek Lewis as director general of the Prison Service in October 1995.

Miss Widdecombe, who fiercely opposed the decision and is supporting Peter Lilley for the leadership, will make a series of criticisms of Mr Howard's role in a letter to John Major. In a move aimed at limiting Mr Howard's chances of succeeding Mr Major, she will publish the letter only weeks before the first leadership ballot.

She has also not ruled out making a highly charged personal statement to the House of Commons about the controversy over Mr Lewis. Such a move would stir memories of Sir Geoffrey Howe's resignation speech which fatally wounded Margaret Thatcher. It could inflict serious damage on Mr Howard's campaign.

But the attack will not be restricted to the row over Mr Lewis, who was dismissed, against the advice of senior prison managers, in October 1995.

Miss Widdecombe, who has told friends that Mr Howard is "dangerous stuff" and has "something of the night" in his personality, will seek to raise concern among the 164 MPs voting in the contest about his ability to withstand pressure, his man-management



"I've got the dream ticket" - William Hague and Baby Spice

skills, and alleged refusal to accept blame when the going gets tough. Friends of Mr Howard rallied to his defence and said MPs would see through the Widdecombe attack. David Maclean, a former Home Office minister, is a key member of the Howard campaign team. "It shows that he is a good minister to work with," said one Howard supporter.

But as Mr Howard's supporters attempted to play down the intervention of Miss Widdecombe, who they dismissed as acting out of "personal pique," they suffered a second blow. *The Times* has learnt that Charles Wardle, a former Home Office immigration minister, is planning to raise an issue in the Commons which has dogged Mr Howard and the Tory Party.

Mr Wardle is seeking an adjournment debate to raise a damning report by the Department of Trade and Industry into the take-

over of Harrods by Mohamed Al Fayed. The report led to a serious clash between Mr Howard and Mr Wardle. Mr Wardle rejected, on the advice of Home Office civil servants, a citizenship application by Mr Al Fayed's brother. Relations between Mr Howard and Mr Wardle, whose decision was upheld, have never recovered. If Mr Wardle secures his debate before the leadership election it could renew the pressure on Mr Howard.

A friend of Mr Wardle, who has not decided which candidate to support but will choose between John Redwood, William Hague and Peter Lilley, said last night: "Charles is not being vindictive against Michael Howard. But he believes there are things that have to come out now because there are too many unresolved issues and questions left hanging in the air."

The move by Mr Wardle has prompted some friends of Mr Howard to speculate on whether there is an organised "stop Howard" campaign. All six leadership camps have taken vows not to act against each other. But some of Mr Howard's supporters suspect that "dirty tricks" are afoot.

The launch of Mr Howard's leadership bid was overshadowed last week when his supporters leaked details of an apparent agreement, struck over champagne, for Mr Hague to act as his deputy.

Mr Howard appeared relaxed yesterday about the plan. He told the BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*: "Ann and I disagreed about a very important decision, the dismissal of Derek Lewis as head of the prison service."

"I had to overrule her because there was an independent report which made very serious criticisms of the prison service management from top to bottom."

"Ann felt very strongly about that. We disagreed. I am convinced the decision we made was the right one and few decisions have been subject to more Parliamentary scrutiny - including a debate on the floor of the House of Commons - than that one."

A key aide to Mr Howard said: "People will see through this. It is personally motivated. One of the key members of the campaign team is David Maclean. That will speak volumes. He was one of the most talented members of the government and he is supporting Michael."

The controversy over Mr Lewis's sacking and prison standards led to a full-scale Commons row two years ago. Mr Howard suffered an embarrassment when the Home Office made a £200,000 settlement to Mr Lewis after he took the case to court for wrongful dismissal.

Hague campaign, page 2  
Letters, page 21



Chiara Mastroianni, daughter of the late Marcello Mastroianni, at the screening of *Johnny Depp's The Brave* at Cannes. Reports page 7; reviews, page 19

## Tehran appeals for quake aid from the West

From James Bone, New York

IRAN'S Islamic Government last night appealed to the United Nations for help after a powerful earthquake devastated villages in the mountainous northeast of the country. Latest estimates put the death toll at some 2,400.

The earthquake, measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale, on Saturday levelled houses in scores of villages across the saffron-producing province of Khorasan, which borders Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Some 10,000 families are believed to have been made homeless.

Tehran officially called for emergency shipments of food, tents, blankets, clothing, four-wheel-drive vehicles, ambulances and water tankers, life detectors and white sheets, presumably for use as shrouds.

Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, urged the international community to "respond promptly and with generosity", and several Western governments immediately stepped forward with contributions of help.

The UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs announced an emergency grant of \$50,000 (£30,000) for the local purchase of relief supplies. It also put a small disaster assessment and co-ordination team on standby for immediate despatch to the area. A small team of UN officials based in Iran also travelled to the earthquake zone to make a preliminary assessment of damage. Aircraft, however, were flying only as far as Mashhad, the provincial capital. The epicentre is about 230 miles further south near the city of Qayen.

Rescue race, page 10

## Cook denies single currency rumours

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, today squashes speculation in financial markets about Britain joining a European single currency at an early stage.

In an interview with *The Times*, he says this remains "unlikely" before the next election and claims that the decision has not been affected by the Government's move to transfer responsibility for setting interest rates to the Bank of England. He says the decision was purely about interest rate policy in Britain. Page 20

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## Budget will include phasing-out of Miras

By Arthur Leathley and Alasdair Murray

GORDON BROWN will use his first Budget to open a purge on the "get-rich-quick" culture and to use new taxes to fund a radical five-year welfare programme.

One of the biggest changes will be the phasing out of mortgage interest tax relief that gives about 10 million homeowners help of £27 a month. Mr Brown is also preparing to begin an overhaul of the corporate taxation system in the mini-Budget which may come as soon as June 10.

Mr Brown has told colleagues that the mortgage relief, or Miras, cannot be sustained by a Labour Government and he will continue the phasing out the relief begun by the Conservatives but put on hold in the run-up to the election. At present, tax relief is given at 15 per cent on the first £30,000 but Mr Brown is understood to consider the allowance an anachronism and

believes that money should be channelled into providing housing for the homeless.

However, the Chancellor is not expected to end the relief at a stroke but is likely to signal a gradual phasing out by removing the allowance from new mortgages. Although estate agents insist that such a move will harm the housing market in its early stages of recovery, government sources argue that the property market is becoming strong enough to withstand the change.

The Chancellor will unveil a range of measures extending well beyond the windfall tax and value-added tax proposals announced before the general election.

As well as taxing what he describes as the excessive short-term profits of the privatised utilities, Mr Brown will announce the allowance an anachronism and

## Pragmatic Brown suits himself in the City

By Andrew Pierce and Carol Midgley

GORDON BROWN will abandon formal dress for a lounge suit when he delivers the Chancellor's Mansion House speech next month. Mr Brown, who has already won plaudits from the Square Mile for surrendering control over interest rates to the Bank of England, has slain another sacred cow.

When he rises to his feet in the

cathedral-like dining room opposite an imposing statue of the Duke of Wellington he will wear his "working clothes", an aide said yesterday.

The change comes only days after the Prime Minister decreed "call me Tony" at his first Cabinet meeting. The decision was also based on pragmatism by the canny chancellor.

Only last year the formal dress for this occasion was changed from white tie to black. Mr Brown

intends to relax the code even further.

Lord Mayors of London have been hosting the dinner at the Mansion House, a focus of the business community, since 1877. They regard it as an important social bridge between the City and the Government especially on the frequent occasions when the two are otherwise barely on speaking terms.

Mr Brown's decision will create a dilemma for the 350 guests, who

resemble a Who's Who of the City and business world. Will they take their cue from the Chancellor or from Alderman Roger Cork, the Lord Mayor?

An aide to the Lord Mayor said: "As you know the City is a very formal place. Black ties are the normal practice in the City and the West End. The Mansion House speech is a very formal occasion. But if the principal guest decides to wear something less formal he will not be made any less welcome."

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# Lottery shake-up seeks to abolish giant profits

Arthur Leathley on plans by Chris Smith, the Heritage Secretary, to switch funds to education and health

RADICAL changes to the running of the National Lottery will be introduced by the new Government as ministers act to curb profits for the operator.

The lottery regulator's current dual role in awarding the next lottery contract, and checking that the national draw is properly run, will be abolished.

Chris Smith, the National Heritage Secretary, is also drawing up plans to prevent the company awarded the next contract from making profits out of the £4 billion a year business.

New legislation to be announced on Wednesday will also ensure that two separate regulators will in

future be involved in the separate functions of awarding the lucrative contract and checking that it is being run in the best interest of the public.

The moves, to be unveiled in the Queen's Speech, are in response to public criticism of Peter Davis, the lottery regulator, who was accused of being too closely involved with one of the companies behind Camelot, the lottery operator.

Mr Davis accepted hospitality from GTEch, an American company that led the Camelot bid for the contract, and he was forced to

defend himself against claims that the hospitality had influenced his decision to award the contract.

A lottery bill to be introduced in the autumn will ensure that the contract goes to a non-profit organisation. Extra funds will be channelled into additional educational and health-service projects as the Government curbs the amount of money available as profit.

Labour insists that the new money, expected to be £1 billion over five years, will not reduce the amount currently paid to sport, the arts, heritage projects and charities.

The position of Mr Davis himself is also in doubt as senior Labour figures have voiced concerns over his past failure to insist that Camelot gained smaller profits from the venture.

Although Camelot insists that its profits represent less than one per cent of turnover, Mr Smith believes that all money should go to good causes and running costs.

The lottery will not come under the windfall tax proposed by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, on excessive profits of some companies. Senior Labour figures

made clear that Camelot did not come under the privatised companies intended to be hit by the one-off tax.

Labour also wants to ensure a quick decision on the Greenwich Millennium Exhibition and would "talk tough" with British Telecom over the plans for the information superhighway promised in return for a faster entry into the entertainment market.

Mr Smith said yesterday that the next lottery contract, due for renewal in four years, will not allow profits to be made out.

"Once the initial franchise comes to an end in about three or four years, we can go for a non-profit organisation, so that every single penny that we can get goes either to prizes or to good causes rather than into the pockets of the people who are running it," he said.

"What I am concerned about is to make sure that the way in which the lottery is being regulated is indeed good and tough on behalf of the people who play the lottery."

When Camelot was awarded its seven-year contract, it forecast that

it would not make a profit for at least three years. In the event, the company recovered start-up costs within six months.

In 1995 it earned a pre-tax profit of £10.8 million. In 1996, its first full year, it had pre-tax profits of £77.5 million on turnover of £5.2 billion. In the first six months of the current year, profits were £20.8 million.

Camelot's shareholders are: Cadbury Schweppes, the confectionery company; De La Rue, the security printer; ICL, the computer company; Racal Electronics; GTEch Corporation, the US lottery specialist. Last year they shared a dividend of £18.4 million.

## Hague takes his message to party's grass roots

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

WILLIAM HAGUE is to take his campaign for the Tory leadership to the party's local activists. Mr Hague, who is emerging as a popular choice as the successor to John Major, will embark next week on a tour of constituency associations in a bid to harness the support of local Conservatives. The former Welsh Secre-

William Hill has made William Hague odds-on favourite to be next leader of the Tories. The bookmaker cut his odds from 11-10 to 4-7 and offers 9-2 Kenneth Clarke, 11-2 Michael Howard and Peter Lilley, 14-1 Stephen Dorrell and 16-1 John Redwood.

tary, 36, said yesterday that the general election party needed a completely fresh approach to regain voter appeal.

"We are going to make a fresh start... and put behind us the disputes that have dogged the party," he said. Rifts had to be healed, Mr Hague said, and the Conservatives must not become a

debating society on Europe. "All areas of policy are up for review. We must be prepared to change anything and everything, except our core principles," he said.

Speaking on BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*, Mr Hague said: "We need to bring thousands of new people in the party — people of my generation whose support we haven't tapped into in recent years and say to them: 'help us to develop our policies.'"

He said the Conservatives would have to show it was "ruthlessly intolerant" of sleaze and misbehaviour in the party. "We have to get rid of the image and make clear we are as intolerant of what has become known as sleaze as anybody else in the country."

Mr Hague said that the general election reflected the volatility of voters' preferences and that they would soon become "fed up" of the Labour Government. "I dare to say we will win the next general election. Just because we have lost by a large margin doesn't mean the voters have moved away from us forever."



William Hague and his leadership rival Michael Howard were both interviewed by Sir David Frost yesterday

Another contender for the Tory leadership, Stephen Dorrell, called yesterday for a "thoroughgoing reform" of the structure of the Conservative Party.

The former Health Secretary gave warning that the party would have to change and adapt or face the prospect of further election defeats.

Speaking on LWT's *Jonathan Dimbleby* programme, Mr Dorrell admitted that the Tories had often appeared to

be nothing more than a "rabble" during the last Parliament and that this had contributed to their defeat.

It seems that the former Welsh Secretary has been given a boost by the backing of senior Tories and a Gallup poll showing he has by far the most electoral appeal of all the candidates.

Mr Hague's chances have been helped by evidence that he is likely to gain the overwhelming backing of the con-

stituency associations. They cannot vote — the franchise is limited to Tory MPs — but are consulted by their MPs.

The former Conservative Cabinet minister Lord Tebbit, writing in *The Sunday Times*, praised John Redwood, who resigned from the Government in 1995 to make his first challenge for the Tory party leadership.

Lord Tebbit said that Mr Redwood was not on the bridge when the captain of the ship rammed it on to the rocks. At any court of inquiry, less blame must attach to the man shouting "after course, rocks ahead" than to those who failed to see the danger ahead or reason to alter course.

"Despite that, my wholehearted support would go to Howard, Lilley or Redwood — whoever is elected. And I hope that if any one of these is seen to be the clearly favoured candidate the others will fall in behind before nominations close."

## Ministers fear guns ban will disrupt schedule

By STAFF REPORTERS

FIREARMS campaigners yesterday welcomed Tony Blair's proposal to ban all handguns by the end of the year, but he faces resistance from senior ministers.

The Prime Minister signalled that the Queen's Speech will announce plans to extend the Firearms Act outlawing full-bore pistols to include less powerful .22 weapons.

Senior party figures fear the debate will take up time needed for other legislation and believe it should wait until next year. One Cabinet minister said yesterday: "There are important measures of our own that we have been waiting to introduce for 18 years without having to 'tidy up' recent Tory legislation. I'm not sure we need to revisit this quite so soon."

However, the Prime Minister has a personal commitment to the issue. He was said to be deeply moved after meeting families of the Dunblane victims last year and has invited them to a private audience in London tomorrow, the day before the Queen's Speech.

His pledge to outlaw all handguns and offer a free vote last October followed a speech to the party conference by Ann Pearson, organiser of the Snowdrop campaign. Mrs Pearson, who knew many of the 16 children who died alongside their teacher in the massacre in March last year, said yesterday: "Ordinary people are walking with a spring in their step. They feel they have been listened to. I felt quite emotional and uplifted myself this morning."

Dr Mick North, whose daughter Sophie, aged five, was among the 16 dead children, said a delegation was making arrangements for the trip. "We welcome the news that this is going to be included in the first Queen's Speech. I certainly felt it was important to deal with this straightaway. I think it is a reflection of the Government's own concerns."

Shooting organisations argue that a total ban would be draconian and ineffective. Mike Yardley, national spokesman for the Sportsman's Association, said compensation and the job losses would cost the taxpayer millions of pounds. He forecast the closure of many rifle clubs, which depend on revenue from handgun owners.

"We seem to be seeing political correctness evolving into a new authoritarianism," he said. "This legislation is not about saying to people you can only keep guns at a club, it is about completely wiping out an historic sport and our Olympic and Commonwealth Games shooting teams, all to give the illusion that something effective has been done."

## GCHQ union ban to be lifted

Civil service union leaders are expecting a government announcement this week which will lift the 13-year ban on trade union membership at the GCHQ intelligence centre in Cheltenham.

"We warmly welcome the opportunity for the restoration of the right of GCHQ workers to join a union," said an official of the biggest civil service union, the Public Services, Tax and Commerce union. The ban was imposed by Margaret Thatcher's Government in 1984.

## Girl hopes fade

Hopes of finding Kirsty Tisdale, 14, alive appeared to be fading after Paul Pearson, 30, her cousin, who had been questioned over her disappearance, committed suicide. Kirsty was last seen close to her home in Charlton, south London, last Sunday. But on Friday Mr Pearson was found dead at the house where he lived with his mother.

## Hunger strike

Asylum seekers being held at Winton Green prison in Birmingham are refusing food in protest at conditions. The Prison Service has confirmed that 10 men, refusing food but still accepting fluids, are said to be angry at being kept in a jail while their applications for refugee status are considered by the Home Office.

## Bhutto visit

Speculation that Benazir Bhutto, the deposed prime minister of Pakistan, will seek political asylum in Britain has been increased by a private visit to London, during which she was said to be looking at schools for her children. Mrs Bhutto and her husband are facing charges of alleged corruption.

## Yates denial

Paula Yates's mother denied reports that Hughie Green was the father of her daughter. Helier Bosman, 59, said from the South of France: "Paula was conceived a month after my marriage to Jess Yates." A friend of Mr Green claimed at his funeral that the television host had fathered an illegitimate daughter.

## Toy ferry launch

Liverpool's answer to Thomas the Tank Engine — a ferry called Gerry — is set for a summer launch on the River Mersey by Peter Ogumaji, a businessman. He hopes that the new toy, developed with the help of Liverpool University, can restore toy manufacturing to Liverpool, which was the original home of Meccano.

## Tax shake-up

Continued from page 1

nounce plans to discourage savers and corporate investors from short-term investments. He will also use his mini-Budget to outline a range of longer-term intentions that will be introduced in later Budgets.

The package is intended to raise more than £5 billion towards plans to create jobs and provide housing for the homeless. Mr Brown has made clear that his public spending review will be completed in time to allow him to implement a three-year spending plan from 1998 to prompt increases in priority areas.

He promised a Bill releasing, over time, £5 billion of capital receipts from council house sales to kick-start a massive new social housing programme and action to find jobs for a million single mothers.

The windfall tax is also intended to fund a programme to bring long-term unemployed and the young into work.

The windfall tax, under which privatised utilities will face a one-off tax on "excessive profits", will be the centrepiece of the Budget. Labour aides suggest that the money raised from the tax will be higher than the £3 billion initially expected.

Mr Brown hinted yesterday that BT was likely to be included alongside the privatised utilities, a move that is certain to hit the company's share price when trading be-

gins this morning. Although water and electricity companies were known to be prime targets of Mr Brown's windfall tax, there was considerable doubt about BT.

Analysts believe BT could escape lightly, given the prominent role the company is expected to play in the Government's ambitious plans to upgrade Britain's access to information technology over the next few years.

The Chancellor has been critical of the taxation system which he believes encourages companies to pay cash to shareholders through dividends rather than reinvesting in their businesses.

Mr Brown has also expressed concern that institutional and private shareholders are not encouraged to hold shares for the long term under the current taxation system. Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, said that Mr Brown was acting "in a tearing hurry" and would cause long-term harm to Britain's economic prospects.

To start playing about with corporate taxation, taxation on investment as he is proposing, is very dangerous indeed. The Chancellor is considering plans which include the phasing out of advanced corporation tax, changes in the rate of corporate taxation and the introduction of two rates of capital gains tax. A thorough reform of the corporate taxation is likely to prove too complicated to complete before the mini-Budget.

## Lib Dems lay claim to Scotland Shadow role

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Liberal Democrats are to challenge the right of the Tories to field a Shadow Scottish Secretary against the Government in the Commons, after the defeat of every Conservative MP in Scotland.

Liberal Democrat representatives are to meet the Speaker of the House, Betty Boothroyd, to argue that their party should be recognised as the official opposition on Scottish issues.

They want their spokesman on Scottish affairs, Jim Wallace, to appear at the dispatch box opposite the Scottish Sec-

retary, Donald Dewar. The Liberal Democrats have ten seats in Scotland.

A spokesman for the Scottish Office said the decision was for the Commons authorities. "The Scottish Secretary will take Scottish questions at Scottish Question Time. It is not really a matter for him who is the person at the dispatch box."

The Liberal Democrats and the Tories are also both laying claim to the part of the Opposition front bench which is not occupied by the Shadow Cabinet.

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They grow up fast and they are living extra months. Now scientists suggest massage for older pets

## Dogs are taking a little longer to have their day

By LIN JENKINS

LIFE goes by so fast. Middle age arrives before you know it. But then, the older years are lasting longer and you need someone to look after your aching bones.

This was the new image of a dog's life yesterday. Scientific endeavour has discovered that it is longer, if not harder, than we thought.

While most of Britain's 6.5 million dog owners persist in thinking that one dog year equates to seven of our own, veterinary science has abandoned the classroom method of assessing equivalent ages and revealed that so rapid is

canine development that a one-year-old dog is like a fully grown and sexually mature 18 year old.

Your dog has reached its late teens by its first birthday and by its second it had been to university, got its degree, bought its first house and the baby is on the way," according to David Watson, a veterinary surgeon who has been researching the greying of our canine population.

Man's best friend, like its owner, is living longer and prompting the massive commercial interests in the pet industry to adapt products for

those greying around the muzzle. Dogs are living on average 18 months longer than they did 30 years ago, probably because of better general care and feeding.

Middle age for most dogs comes at about six or seven, which equates to a human in their mid to late 40s. A significant number of mongrels, if not their purebred pedigree cousins, now live into the late teens or even early twenties.

The study found that one third of dogs were classed as "seniors" aged seven or eight or older depending on the breed — while just 10 per cent were in the puppy and junior bands.

The oldest dog known to have lived in the United Kingdom was either the Welsh collie Taffy who died at the home of its owner, Evelyn Brown, in West Bromwich, West Midlands, at the age of 27 years and 313 days, or the black Labrador Adjutant, owned by a game keeper in Boston, Lincolnshire, which died aged 27 years and three months in November 1963.

The new comparative ages are based on studies for the research arm of Pedigree Churn, in which dogs of a variety of breeds have been



Pedigree churns sit proudly at a dog show: in fact, the study shows that mongrels are more likely to be enjoying life long after some pets

subjected to whole-body scanning with tissue mass and bone mass measured through sophisticated techniques.

Britain's most popular dog, according to registrations with the Kennel Club, is the Labrador which is expected to reach 12. A Great Dane is considered

old at eight and a Jack Russell terrier would not be unusual if it passed its twentieth birthday.

Mr Watson found in his study that about 14 per cent of the dog population is aged ten, as opposed to about 10 per cent in 1965. According to his new

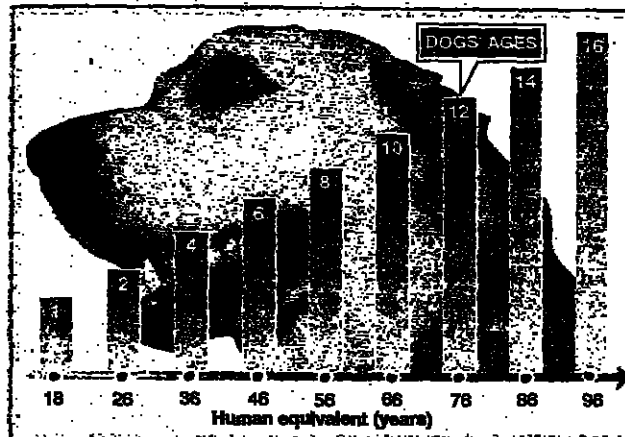
assessment of age, they would be 66 in human terms.

The pet food manufacturers have been quick to cater for the needs of those pensionable pooches. Pedigree Churn has published a booklet, *The Senior Years*, to help owners retain the youthful exuberance

in their dogs. Advice includes massage to aid relaxation and relieve the aches and pains associated with ageing.

The massage programme, devised by the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Animal Therapy, suggests spending up to five minutes on

each set of muscles in the neck, back, shoulders, thighs and lower limbs. It also advises flexing the joints by supporting a limb above and below the joint and moving it slowly and gently through the full range of movement, then moving the whole leg as if cycling.



## Microchip plan could banish ref's mistakes

By RUSSELL JENKINS

THE most vilified figure in sport, the football referee, might soon be made error-free by the use of a microchip.

Professor Nigel Allinson would like to create a "robot" by using radio waves and computers to compensate for referees' innate fallibilities. Officials, he suggests, should wear a helmet similar to that of a Tornado fighter pilot so that instant replays of disputed incidents can be flashed on to the visitor. The Football Association is prepared to agree to a pilot programme.

Professor Allinson, who holds the chair of electronic systems engineering at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, is to outline his plans this week in a new BBC Radio 5 series called *The 21st Century and How To Survive It*.

His conclusion will disappoint fans, however. While machines can now beat chess grandmasters, he does not foresee the referee being totally replaced. "It is important that real referees continue to make the decisions," he says.

Professor Allinson's plan will begin modestly by linking the referee's watch to a giant screen in the stadium so that fans can judge how much time is being added for injuries. Should that be approved, football will be spared the regular sight of Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, stalking the touchline with his own stopwatch in hand.

The next step would be for the referee to have a radio microphone so that he can explain decisions to fans. In the longer term, radio waves along the touchlines and between the goalposts could detect whether or not the ball, coated with a metal lining, had crossed the line.

## Bosnia officer hits back over desertion charge

By DANIEL MCGRORY

AN OFFICER from the British peacekeeping force in Bosnia is demanding a government investigation into why he is facing court martial for desertion 18 months after he resigned from the Army.

Robert Ryan, 31, was the first officer to order British troops to return fire during the civil war in the former Yugoslavia. He is angry that 15 armed soldiers were sent to arrest him in Bosnia and bring him back to Britain in handcuffs to stand trial.

Mr Ryan, from Biddulph in Staffordshire, describes the Army's behaviour in holding him in a military prison for a week after his arrest three months ago as "ludicrous".

The Army says the former captain with the Cheshire Regiment went absent without leave in 1995 after accepting a £6,500 payment to stay on in the services. Mr Ryan insists that stress forced him to change his mind about extending his army career and that the British Embassy in Sarajevo knew he had left the Forces to set up a business as a travel

guide in the city. He says the money was paid back to the Army. He had handed in his military kit, completed all the formalities and left a forwarding address for his new business in Sarajevo after resigning from his regiment in 1995.

He said: "I object to the word 'deserter'. I have never run away from anything. I don't know why it took 18 months for them to arrest me. Everyone knew where I was. I left an address. As far as I am concerned I left the Army legitimately and this is basically just an administrative dispute over money. It's a case of the left hand not knowing what the right is doing."

The Ministry of Defence said Mr Ryan was a "highly unusual and sensitive case". A spokesman said: "It hinges on whether a soldier can just walk out when he wants."

The issue was whether Mr Ryan should have paid back what the Army calls a "financial retention incentive" to extend his army career before quitting. "He was told after changing his mind he would have to repay the money in full, but on receiving that bit of information he went absent without leave. He made an offer to repay £745 but then just walked out."

The point isn't whether or not we knew where he was. We expect our employees to return and discuss these problems in the proper way. We don't go to them."

Mr Ryan was mentioned in dispatches for his gallantry in ordering his troops to open fire after they were ambushed on patrol in Bosnia. He has refused to accept the Army's offer to pay his salary while he awaits the court martial as he insists he is a civilian.



Ryan was arrested 18 months after leaving

"If every golfer's swing was as reliable as my Rolex, I'd be out of a job."



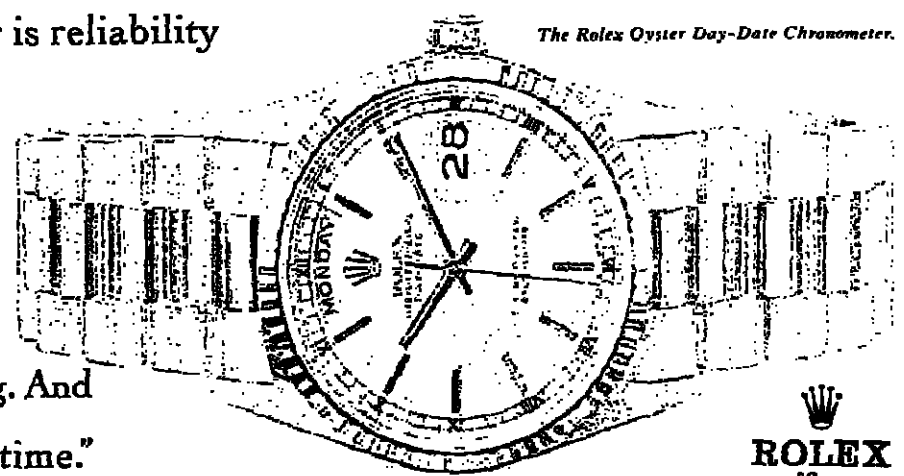
His gift as a communicator and his adaptability make David Leadbetter one of golf's most sought-after teachers.

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## Pavarotti says triumphant au revoir to the Garden

LUCIANO PAVAROTTI, in tremendous vocal form, said farewell yesterday to the stage on which he first appeared in 1963. Galas apart, it was the tenor's first recital at the Royal Opera House since 1979 — and it was his last before the house closes for rebuilding.

His farewell could have been a sentimental occasion, but the only hint was in his choice of Rodolfo's Act I aria from *Bohème* as the first encore. He took over the role at short notice from an ailing Giuseppe di Stefano 34 years ago. Pavarotti, 62 this year, can still sing most of today's Rodolfos off the stage when it comes to passion, phrasing and volume. In a long tradition, he

chose to warm up with Italian art songs. These he followed with four sacred songs, unbunting his tailcoat for Schubert's *Ave Maria*; the loosening-up process was over.

After Bizet's *Agnus Dei*, it was Tosti. Pavarotti gave both of Cavaradossi's arias, lustrous in tone in front of the portrait of the Madonna in Act I and using that famous head voice to magical effect when under sentence of death in the last act.

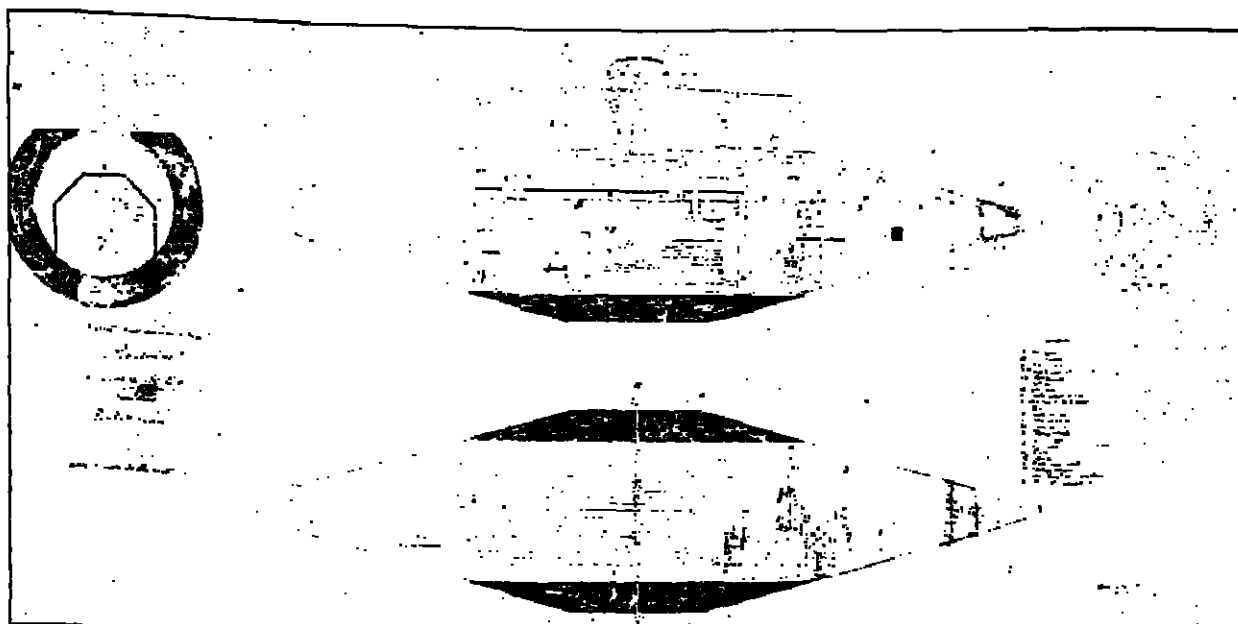
After the break, Tosti ruled. His songs, mainly from the turn of the century, show off the voice well. Tosti settles well in the middle of the voice and more often than not allows the singer a chance for a virtuoso flourish at the end of each song. Pavarotti gave *L'ultima canzone* the full works.

Una furtiva lagrima was a reminder that Donizetti's Nemorino has long been one of Pavarotti's favourite roles and one in which he rarely misses. So to the encores. As well as Rodolfo, the part which probably above all others will always be associated with him, there was *Rigoletto's* Duke of Mantua. He dashed straight from *Quella o quella* into *La donna è mobile* with hardly a break.

On this showing, Pavarotti should be back when the new house reopens in two years.

JOHN HIGGINS

## Divers prepare rescue mission for curate's invention of first engine-powered underwater vessel

A plan for the 1879 prototype of the steam-driven *Resurgam*, right. A careless crew was blamed for its sinking

## Fishing juggernauts put Victorian sub in peril



Martin Dean

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

THE world's first engine-powered submarine, which sank off North Wales nearly 120 years ago, may be brought to the surface to save it from being smashed by modern fishing methods. Divers are to see if it is safe to move.

The *Resurgam*, a three-man vessel with a steam engine, was designed by a Manchester curate. Until then submarines had been powered by crews hand-cranking the propeller. The *Resurgam* sank in 1880, three months after it was



built, while being towed to Portsmouth for Royal Navy trials. Although its position is circumscribed to fishing fleets, marine archaeologists fear

that it may be damaged or destroyed by a beam trawler, which drags a huge steel beam along the seabed.

The *Resurgam* was discovered accidentally in the autumn of 1995 by a fisherman who snagged his nets on it five miles north of Rhyl. Enthusiasts had spent years searching for it.

A team of 96 divers led by the Government's Archaeological Diving Unit, based at St Andrews University, will begin an intensive two-week study in June to assess the condition of the 40ft by 8ft iron

frame. Martin Dean, director of the unit, said that if the *Resurgam* were hit by a beam trawler the evidence collected in June would be all that remained of an important piece of nautical history. "This is a unique submarine," he said. "It is under threat where it is at the moment and, in my opinion, it would be sensible to think about moving it to a place of safety. However, the cost of bringing it ashore would be horrendous."

Cadw, the Welsh heritage agency with responsibility for

the wreck, is considering applications from organisations interested in its future. It is understood that the Warship Preservation Trust, headed by Sir Philip Goodheart, has expressed an interest.

The divers will search the seabed around the barnacle-encrusted hull, thought to be sitting upright 55ft below the surface. It is hoped that some of its missing parts, including propeller belts, vents and the conning tower hatch, will be found. The crew is said to have joined the towing ship and to have left the hatch open.

leaving the *Resurgam* to be sunk by a huge wave.

The nine-tonne vessel was designed by the Rev George Garrett of Moss Side. A prototype was built by Cochran's Boilermakers of Birkenhead in 1879 and featured the cleric's invention for air purification, an early form of breathing apparatus called a pneumatophore.

Mr Garrett, who has been called the father of submarines, had claimed that there was enough steam from the coal-fired boiler to power the vessel underwater for up to ten

hours. But the fire had to be extinguished before the vessel submerged to prevent it using up the oxygen.

Submarine technology was advanced by John Holland, an Irish immigrant, whose design for one propelled by an electric motor was accepted by the American Navy in 1898. Mr Garrett went on to design vessels for the Greek and Turkish navies and some were still in use early this century. He became admiral of the Turkish Navy but later moved to the United States, where he died in poverty.



GLASGOW MUSEUM OF TRANSPORT

## Ecologists fight to save threatened Ice Age fish

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

ENGLISH and Scottish ecologists have joined forces in an attempt to save Britain's rarest fish, an Ice Age relic clinging to existence in two Cumbrian lakes.

The herring-like vendace, *Coregonus albus*, is found only in Derwent Water and Bassenthwaite in the Lake District, having disappeared during this century from two small lochs in Scotland, its only other known sites.

Scientists have now introduced thousands of vendace smolts to another Scottish loch in an attempt to establish a "safeguard" stock that would ensure the fish's survival if the Lake District populations were wiped out.

Derwent Water's vendace are in reasonably good health, but those in Bassenthwaite are struggling against pollution and growing numbers of predatory ruffe, used as live bait by anglers, which feed on ven-



At risk: the vendace

dace eggs. The rescue plan for the vendace is a joint venture by Scottish Natural Heritage, the Lake District National Park, the Environment Agency and the Institute of Freshwater Ecology. The fish is one of more than a hundred endangered species of animals and plants in Britain listed for conservation after the Rio summit of 1992.

Last December scientists collected some 100,000 vendace eggs from Bassenthwaite and in April about 30,000 smolts hatched from the eggs were released into Loch

Skeen, northeast of Moffat, in Dumfries and Galloway.

Until last month's reintroduction, vendace had been absent from Scotland for more than 20 years. The fish were still occasionally being caught in Mill Loch, near Lochmaben, west of Lockerbie, in the early 1970s, but none has been seen since then.

Vendace disappeared from Castle Loch, also near Lochmaben, and their only other known home in Scotland, soon after a sewage works was built there in 1911. In the last century, vendace anglers held an annual summer festival there, catching the fish with fine gillnets and then cooking and eating them outdoors.

Ecologists believe vendace recolonised lakes in northern Britain from the sea after the ice-sheets retreated some 10,000 years ago. The fish is still an important commercial species in western Russia and northwestern parts of continental Europe.

Full-time job.  
Part-time childhood.

Sangli is only nine but already he talks about his childhood in the past tense. It ended the day he started work, at just eight years old. Since then, he

will tell you, life is a slog every day of the week. The seven mile walk to find a good patch, the nine hours kneeling in the dust mending shoes, the miserable 30p or so earned.

There is no play. The word doesn't enter his vocabulary. And no education, unless you include the kind you get on the streets, like how to look after yourself when a customer gets rough.

Why does he do it? Because his parents are so poor that they need, really need, his 30p a day to help pay for food and clothes.

If Sangli were the only child in the world working his childhood away it would be one too many. As it is he is one of some 55 million in India alone. Christian Aid works to combat child labour by campaigning for decent adult wages and improving families' living standards so that parents can afford to take their kids off the street.

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## Being fat and spotty is a teenager's nightmare

By IAN MURRAY  
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

MOST children aged 11 to 16 were reported yesterday to worry about their appearance, with concerns topped by overweight, spots and ugly teeth.

According to a poll commissioned by nurses, 86 per cent of the age group — but especially girls and poorer children — fretted about the way they looked. A third thought they were too fat and a quarter worried about their skin or teeth. Almost one in ten was anxious about being underweight.

Christine Hancock, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, which commissioned the MORI poll to mark Nurses Day, said: "Our survey shows the insecurities that children can feel about the way they look. From teenage spots to severe eating disorders because of worries about weight."

Among the 4,295 children polled, those who said they were not well-off were more worried about their appearance than those from better-off families. Among poorer families, 41 per cent were

### STUDY GIVES ALCOPOP WARNING

Evidence that "alcopops" are encouraging children to become under-age drinkers has been found in a survey of more than 3,000 pupils in Wales. Dominic Kennedy writes. The study is published as the Food and Drink Industry Watchdog, is understood to be seeking powers to encourage boys and girls to eat healthily and off-licence chains of alcoholic lemonades and colas aimed at young people. The Welsh research, published today, found that

more than a quarter of girls aged 15 and 16 drank no alcohol except for the lemonade and cola-flavoured drinks. That suggested that the sweet flavours enticed children who would otherwise be deterred by the strong tastes of adult drinks, they said. In that age group, 30 per cent of girls and 24 per cent of boys drank alcopops at least weekly. Beer was found to be drunk by 54 per cent of boys and 27 per cent of girls.

anxious about being fat, compared with 33 per cent from wealthier homes. MORI says this suggests that middle-class diets are healthier and that poorer children are either overweight or have relatives who are. Less well-off children were also more conscious of bad skin (31 per cent) and teeth (29 per cent); the corresponding percentages among richer children were 26 and 24. Boys were generally less

concerned about what they looked like, with 21 per cent saying they had no worries, compared with 8 per cent of girls.

Pupils at all-girl schools were generally more worried than average and white children tended to be more anxious than black or other ethnic minority children. Worries changed as children grew older. Only 13 per cent of 11-year-olds worried about their

skin but a year later the proportion rose to 20 per cent. It was 28 per cent for 13-year-olds and 37 per cent for 16-year-olds. Those worried about the shape of their noses doubled from 8 to 16 per cent between 11 and 16 years.

Sandra Rote, the college's community health adviser, said that school nurses increasingly found that children were asking for advice about diet. "Fat, stodgy foods are easier and cheaper for schools to serve," she said. "Packets of crisps keep better than apples, so there is a temptation not to serve things which can go off."

Help was at hand today from a giant walking carrot called Herbie and the start of National School Meals Week. The campaign to encourage more imaginative and healthier menus is organised by Arnold Fewell of the Local Education Catering Association.

He began to urge healthier eating in 1988, when he was North Yorkshire catering officer. Mr Fewell created Herbie (Healthy Eating Really Better in Every Way) and was prompted to lose three of his own 22 stone.

## Disney's £10m show opens on a high note

By CAROL MIDDLEY

THE most expensive show ever staged in the West End opens tomorrow, with more than £5 million taken in advance bookings.

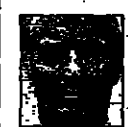
*Beauty and the Beast*, a £10 million musical by Walt Disney, has taken three years of planning and is expected to be as successful in Britain as it has been on Broadway, where it has been running since 1994. Julie-Anne Brighten, 25, stars as Belle alongside co-star Alasdair Harvey from *The Phantom of the Opera*, who plays the Beast. Lyrics for five of the songs are by Sir Tim Rice.

The extravaganza, with a cast of 40, a 25-piece orchestra, a backstage crew of 75 and 230 costumes, is Disney's first foray into the West End. It is estimated to be about twice as expensive as any other show staged there. Because of the scale of the production, an extension had to be built at the back of the Dominion Theatre to make room for the wardrobe department.



*Beauty and the Beast* is the most expensive show ever staged in the West End

## Currie's taste may suffer after nose job



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

REPORTS that Edwina Currie has had surgery on her nose have produced a varied crop of news stories and cartoons, mainly unsympathetic. The former Conservative MP's nose job has been discussed as an aesthetic issue, and as a manifestation of vanity. Nobody seems to have listened to Mrs Currie's own explanation: that the surgery was performed mainly for medical reasons.

Mrs Currie may well have very good reasons for having the operation. Apart from having sustained a deflected septum in a minor accident, she also suffers from severe asthma, which is often associated with allergic vasomotor rhinitis, the periodic inflammation and engorgement of the nasal lining which occurs in certain people in response to contact with an allergen, be it pollen, moulds, household dust or Humphrey the cat. Vasomotor rhinitis is the cause of the runny and stuffed-up nose of the hay fever sufferer.

More than 70 per cent of patients with asthma and vasomotor rhinitis will eventually develop nasal polyps. The polyps are teardrop-

shaped benign tumours, which, particularly when infected or inflamed as a result of contact with an allergen, swell and ooze so that they obstruct the nasal passages, causing increased snoring at night and a stuffy, nasal voice by day.

Although benign, they may co-exist with malignancies, so it is best to obtain a specialist opinion from time to time, not only so that the expert may remove an offending polyp, but also so that he or she can check that they are not concealing anything more sinister.

Nasal congestion, and hence the liability to polyps, is made worse if the nasal septum — the gristle and bone separating the nostrils — is deflected, causing a unilateral constriction. The nasal passages can be enlarged by a submucosal resection or by septoplasty — nasal septum reconstruction. Rhinoplasty — a complete remodelling of the nose — could be used to produce a more beautiful and functional nose.

After surgery Mrs Currie will be able to breathe better and snore less, and may have a different tone to her voice, but there is often a price to pay. Mrs Currie's judgment of fine food and wine may be affected. The basic tastes — saltiness, bitterness, sweetness and sourness — will still be obvious, but the subtle tastes which are the result of smell and which allow the diner to discriminate between the elusive fragrances given off by carefully constructed sauces and old wines may be lost.

Recent research has shown that even a submucosal resection, the surgical dilatation of the nasal passage, may so interfere with the nerve supply to the nasal mucosa that the chance of becoming a master of wines would be lost for ever.



Currie: she said surgery was for medical reasons

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# Ministers order an MoD about-turn on Gulf War syndrome

BY DANIEL MCGRORY

DEFENCE ministers will today order a new investigation into the extent of the official cover-up over "Gulf War syndrome".

The Government is promising "substantial new resources" to discover what experts in the ministry knew about the possible damaging side-effects of vaccinations and drugs given to service personnel as protection against a chemical or biological attack from Iraqi forces.

An action plan will be unveiled by John Reid, Armed Forces Minister. Labour says the matter will be a top priority for the Ministry of Defence. Ministers will urgently consider compensation. An MoD source said: "The message is there will be no hiding in corners any more and denials that nobody knew of possible harmful side-effects."

That approach, ministers say, is in stark contrast to Whitehall's original response to deny the existence of any

possible health hazards from the Gulf conflict. "What is most important is research to combat the many harmful side-effects," the source said.

The investigation is likely to embarrass the Opposition when the full extent of how Nicholas Soames, then Armed Forces Minister, was misled over the use of organophosphate pesticides during the war is brought out.

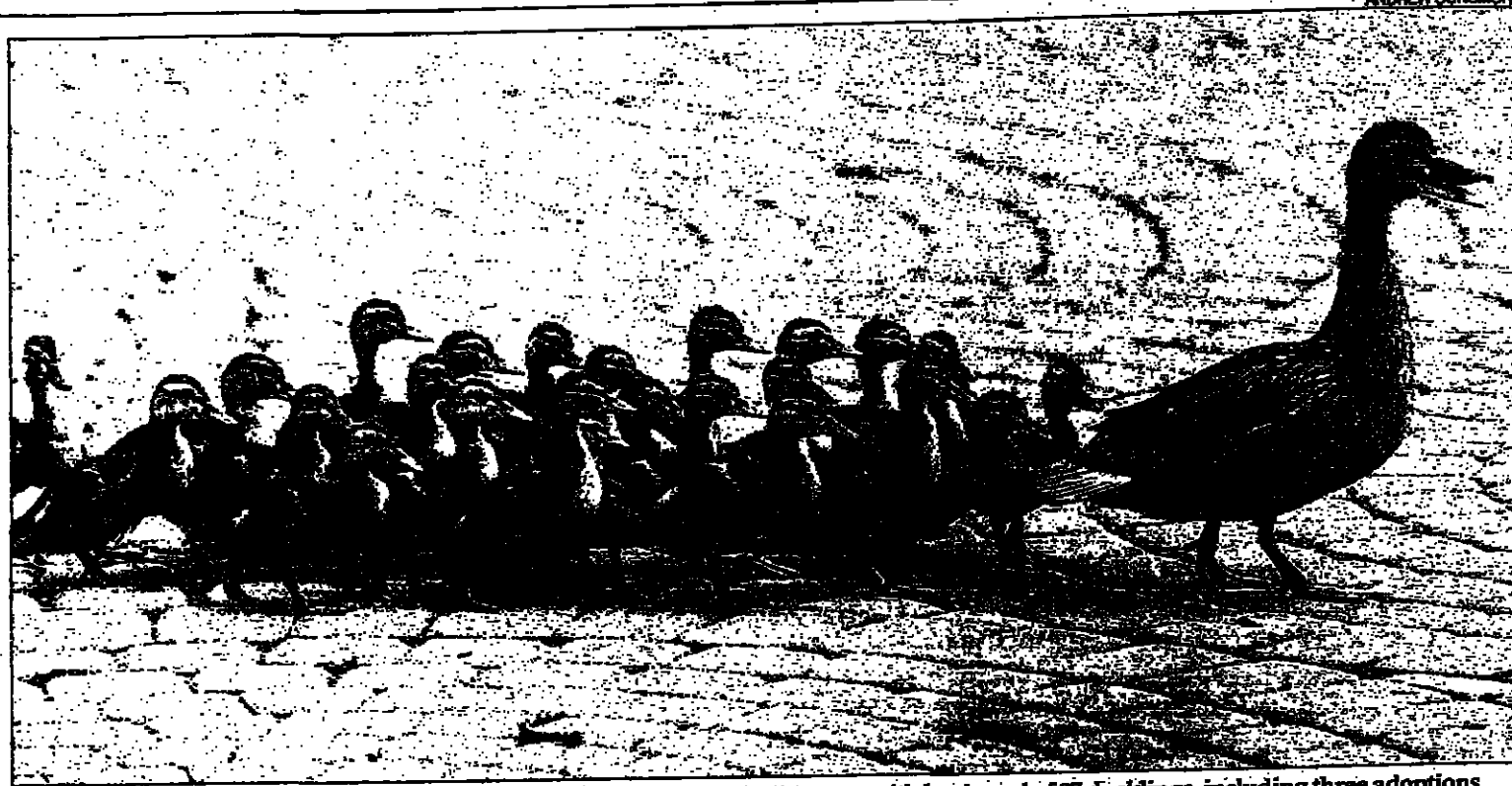
The MoD will also be told to expedite medical examinations of all those veterans complaining of ill health. About a thousand Gulf veterans have so far been examined. Mr Reid will pledge that the findings from the new research will be made public.

A series of research programmes have already been launched to compare the health of thousands of Gulf War veterans with military personnel not involved in the 1991 conflict. Former and serving troops are being enticed to fill in complex questionnaires

to assist the research with the offer of entry into a £1,000 draw. Such incentives might now be increased.

Tony Flint, a spokesman for the Gulf War Veterans and Families' Association, welcomed the move last night. "This is the best bit of news we have heard for four years. We are feeling very hopeful now we are getting the recognition we wanted. Until now the Ministry of Defence and the Government treated us as if we were hypochondriacs," he said. "We hope the new research will continue where the Americans left off."

Richard Barr, a solicitor working to coordinate the investigations, said: "It is wonderful news. It represents a complete about-turn in governmental attitude." In the new spirit of openness, Mr Barr said he hoped the Government might reveal the names of some of the vaccines used to inoculate soldiers going to the Gulf.



From a long family line: Martha delighted staff at the Animal Line sanctuary with her brood of 27 ducklings, including three adoptions

## Martha the motherly mallard waddles into record books

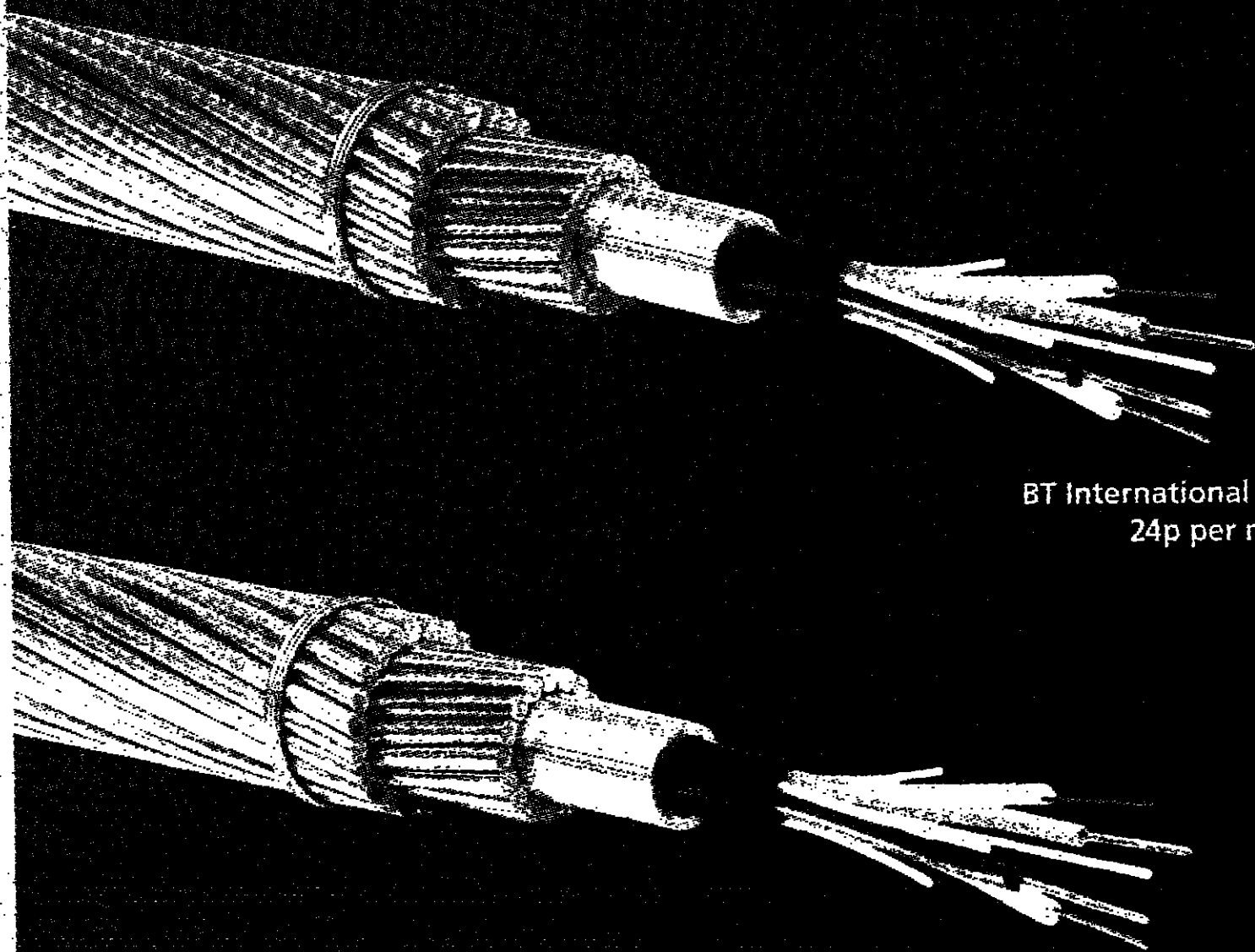
ONE by one they trooped into the wildlife sanctuary behind their mother — 24 ducklings in a long, untidy line. But not content with coping with possibly the biggest brood on record, Martha the mallard has adopted three more. Now mother and her family of 27 are the

pride of staff at the Animal Line sanctuary near East Grinstead in West Sussex. The story began when Martha, a former resident of the sanctuary, walked through the gate last week with her day-old ducklings. They were put into an infra-red treatment unit, next door to three

other day-old mallard ducklings which had been abandoned at birth. The orphans' cries were heard by Martha, who broke down the thin dividing wall between and adopted them. Peter Wakeham, the owner of the sanctuary, said yesterday: "It's the biggest brood I have ever known."

How on earth she managed to sit on all those eggs, turning them and keeping them at the right temperature, is beyond me. It must have been like sitting on a pyramid. She is a brilliant mother — to her own ducklings and those she has adopted."

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## Customs 'spy' to join Moscow's crime fighters

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR Customs investigator is being sent to Moscow to combat the spread of the Russian mafia into Britain and to curb drug smuggling from the former Soviet Union.

The officer will be the first member of a British law enforcement organisation to work full-time in Russia. He may eventually be joined by other police and Customs officers to form a special cell linking Russian police forces with London.

The Customs man, who is not being named for security reasons, will have the status of a middle-ranking diplomat. He will be based in the British Embassy in Moscow with a small staff. Aged 40, he is a senior investigating officer currently working in the North-East. He was formerly a drugs liaison officer in Bolivia, working with its police against the cocaine cartels.

He will take up his post in the summer after his working brief has been agreed with the Russians and he has completed a Russian language course. In Moscow, he will join a growing band of foreign investigators, including officers from the FBI and the German security organisation, BKA. There are also British Customs

and police officers working in 31 countries on drugs liaison. Another eight Customs officers work on financial operations, including tax fraud. Our man in Moscow will be a much wider brief, specifically including organised crime as well as drug crime and tax fraud.

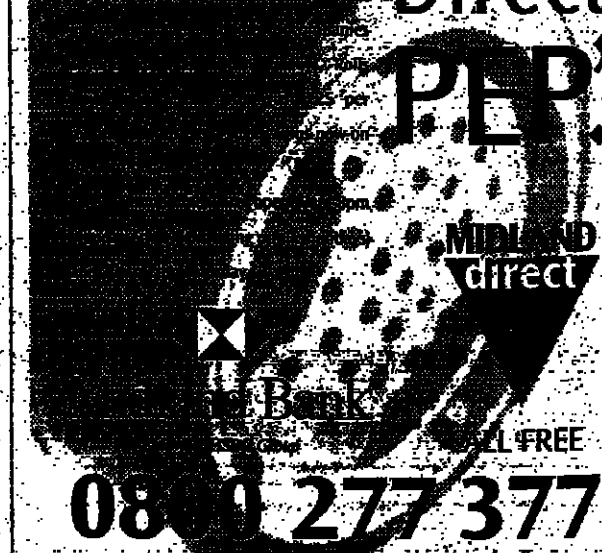
The Customs officer will build up contacts with Russian investigators and the successors to the KGB. He will also feed intelligence back to London and help to train the Russians to meet Western standards of investigation.

Customs and police say the posting is recognition of the dangers that the expanding Russian underworld poses. A Customs source said: "We see a lot of problems coming out of the old Soviet bloc and we believe this will put us ahead of the game."

The former Soviet Union has become a staging post for moving drugs into western Europe. The Asian states are also emerging as new sources for harvests of the opium poppy and cannabis. Dealers in London have gathered evidence that Russian mob leaders are laundering cash and using Britain to invest their profits.

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Dalya Alberge reports from the Cannes festival, where history has a fondness for repeating itself

## Maker of slave film sees double over new Spielberg epic

A YOUNG filmmaker expressed surprise yesterday that Steven Spielberg's latest film bears uncanny similarities to his own. Joel Marsden said that not only were both stories about slave-ship uprisings, but Spielberg was using the same set and the same principal actor.

Marsden's completed film, *Ill Gotten Gains*, is his debut feature and cost £1.5 million to make. Spielberg's *Amistad* has just begun filming on a £24 million budget.

"They are shooting on the same ship we used, a replica ship off the Californian coast in San Diego," said Marsden, 27, who was born to a British father in New York. The lead actor in both films is Djimon

Hounsou, a West African who made his name as a model on the catwalks of Paris and Milan.

Marsden devoted three years to researching and writing his film, which features the gravel-voiced Eartha Kitt as a spirit trapped in the planks of the ship, a character inspired by West African folklore. He is in Cannes to screen his film for distributors.

He said: "It's a trend in Hollywood to have similar films and similar topics. They usually don't use the same set and the same star. It is unusual for two films to share such similarities. If they do it, they use different stars and a different city."

At 49, Spielberg is the

world's most successful filmmaker, with *ET*, *Schindler's List* and *Jurassic Park* among his hits. A spokesman said that he had been working on *Amistad* for at least two years: "If he's saying Spielberg pinched the idea, I'd think that's too absurd. Spielberg doesn't have to. He wouldn't even contemplate it. He can afford to buy any ideas."

Spielberg's film tells the true story of a revolt on the Spanish slave ship *Amistad* by a cargo of 53 Africans in 1839. Marsden's script distils 500 years of history, set on one ship. He intends to invite Spielberg to his Los Angeles premiere in August. Ultimately, he said, it was simply important that films about slavery were made. "I wanted to portray the situation on a slave ship and the many uprisings on them which the history books don't talk about much."

Inspired by a visit to Senegal, and a slave house from which millions were deported, his film takes place in 1869, after the abolition of slavery. "Unfortunately, few ships were committed to the cause to end the slave trade," Marsden said.

"The enforcement of laws proved difficult, with more than 5,000 miles to patrol. Our film deals with a series of uprisings on an American slave ship and how even Americans and the subjects of other countries continued to make a quick buck out of it."



Cannes laughter: the Spice Girls wore headscarves and dark sunglasses to mimic film stars of the Thirties and Forties

## Cinema intellectuals are lost in spice

LEGENDARY stars have been reduced to artistic fury by the intense questioning at Cannes press conferences. Yesterday the Spice Girls showed they were in control by making everyone in the room do a Mexican wave.

They bossed hardened male journalists and film intellectuals, telling them how to conduct themselves. They told one to stop mumbling when addressing them, and another to uncross his arms because it was

"bad body language". When "Baby Spice" Emma was asked a question by a Lebanese journalist, she said: "Oh, we've never been to Lebanon, but I've been to Debenhams."

The group were promoting plans for their first feature film. They flew in to Cannes wearing headscarves and sunglasses, mimicking the stars of the Thirties and Forties. Asked about their film's plot, "Ginger Spice" Geri said: "It is about our tinner and outer struggles." Thou-

sands of fans had lined the streets for a glimpse of the British group that has broken records with four chart-topping singles in a row. The film, as yet untitled, will be directed by Bob Spiers, who worked on television's *Fawlty Towers* and *Absolutely Fabulous*.

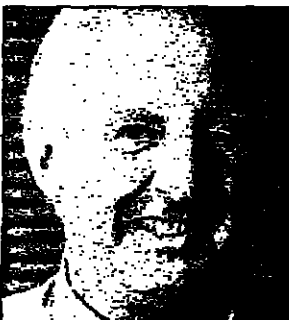
The story of five days in the life of the band will begin filming in London next month for release at the end of the year, with Richard E Grant as their manager and other

stars in cameo roles. Geri said: "It is a parody of ourselves. It is also a celebration of London in the Nineties."

Asked if she was scared of making a fool of herself by acting, "Scary Spice" Mel B said: "We know we are not perfect but we will give it our best shot. It might be a smash hit but it might not. But at least we did it."

Asked how long they can last in showbusiness, she added: "How long is a piece of string?"

## Nicholson story raises questions about the mixing of fact and fiction



Michael Nicholson

A BRITISH film based loosely on the experiences of Michael Nicholson, the ITN reporter who adopted a Bosnian child, has reopened controversy about the portrayal of real events.

Michael Winterbottom's film *Welcome to Sarajevo* depicts a mortar attack on a Sarajevo bread queue in which 16 people were killed and 110 wounded on May 27, 1992. The film intersperses archive footage with fictional material.

Speaking at a press conference launching the film, Winterbottom

was compelled to defend his work against charges of bias by a former war correspondent, Paul Martin. The director insisted that as archive footage had been used, it was an accurate reflection of what happened.

Mr Martin, who reported for American television and made a documentary called *Children of War*, suggested that the archive film had been used "to add legitimacy to a nice piece of fiction". The news reports had simplified a complex war to make it more digestible for television audiences, therefore dis-

torting what really happened, he felt. "It was far too black and white — how nasty people are firing into defenceless, valiant individuals."

The director said that he could not see how a depiction of people being massacred while queuing for something as innocent as bread could have another side. Winterbottom and the lead actor, Stephen Dillane, drew attention to the copious research that had gone into making the film. Dillane — who plays a character based on Mr Nicholson — spoke of his surprise that the

journalists who went to Bosnia had not read about the region's history before going.

David Aukin, of Channel 4 Films, one of the co-funders, said that Mr Nicholson had seen and "loved" the film. One of the actors, Goran Visnjic, who had fought in the Croatian army, called the film "very realistic and very powerful".

The film opens in Britain at the end of this year and centres on a character called Michael Henderson, a British television correspondent. Discovering that an

orphanage on the frontline is being bombed by artillery fire, he campaigns for the children's safety. Frustrated by the lack of response, he feels compelled to take action, smuggling a child home.

Mr Winterbottom, whose previous films include *Jude* with Kate Winslet, said he was not seeking to offer any political solutions, nor to criticise individuals in the West. Apart from reflecting the horrors of war, he said the film explored the dilemma for journalists of whether to report events or to campaign for

change. Above all, he wanted people to think about the war in Bosnia: "Even if people spend an hour and a half thinking about Sarajevo, then it's been useful."

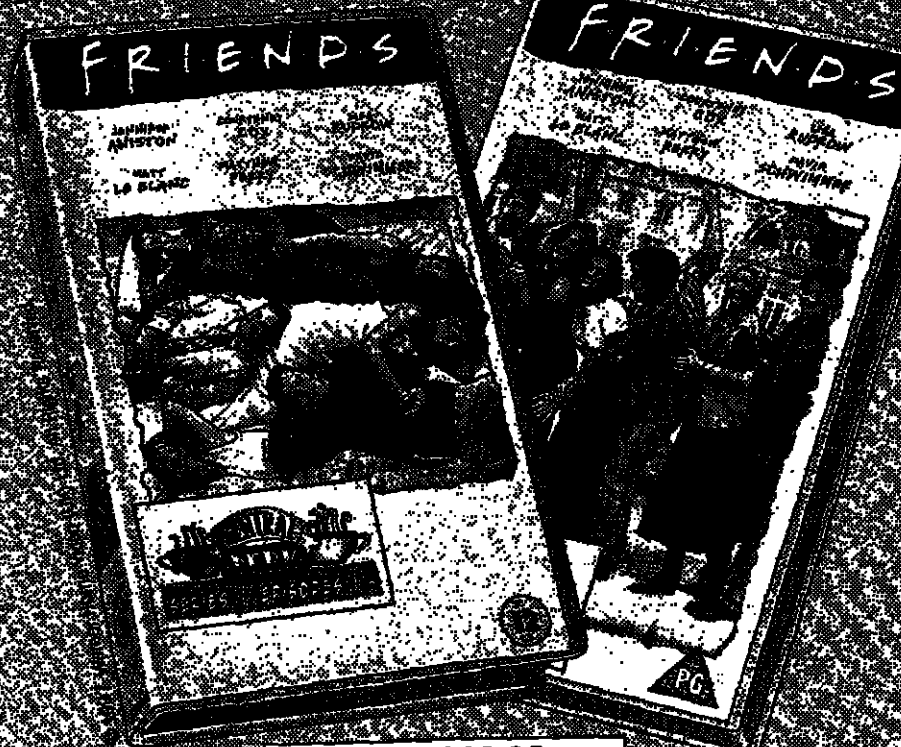
The writer, Frank Cottrell Boyce, described it as "an act of mourning rather than analysis".

Mr Nicholson is currently on assignment in Jerusalem. His adopted daughter, Natasha, now 14, was at school in Surrey yesterday. Mr Nicholson said: "She is deliriously happy and so are we. Her ambition is to be a tennis coach."

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# Blunkett will force councils to close inadequate schools

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE Government will force local authorities to shut failing schools that are showing no signs of improvement, following an emergency review over the weekend of the 281 which are now subject to special measures.

In his first full interview as Education and Employment Secretary, David Blunkett said he would not wait for legislation before tackling the worst schools. "I want to create momentum. Rather than the hand-wringing we saw from the last Government, we must have positive action."

Stephen Byers, the Minister for School Standards, spent the weekend drawing up a "hit list" of schools requiring attention. He will announce on Thursday how many schools have been found wanting, and they will be identified next week after their local authorities have been informed.

With action planned in the next few weeks against local authorities who are underperforming, councillors will have little choice but to accept the Government's recommendations. For some schools, this will mean closure and subsequent reopening under Labour's "Fresh Start" proposals.

The measures to be outlined next month in a White Paper will enable ministers to demand that failing schools are given new leadership and a



Blunkett: to tackle worst schools at an early stage

different name. But Mr Blunkett said: "We cannot delay because for every year that passes, the school is failing its pupils and opportunities for youngsters in that age group disappear."

More than 40 schools have spent at least two years under the special measures applied to those found by inspectors to be failing. Although the weekend review suggested that some were now improving, others have had a series of reports indicating only limited progress without being taken over by an education association. Only Hackney Downs

School, in East London, has suffered such a fate, closing within months of its takeover. Although other failing schools have been closed by their local authority or merged with a neighbour, invariably the action has been prompted by falling pupil numbers.

Mr Byers said yesterday: "I am shocked that the previous Government was prepared to wait for more than two years and still not take action in relation to failing schools which were not significantly raising standards. This will change. We will intervene at an early stage."

Only a handful of schools are likely to face immediate closure, but ministers are expected to demand changes of leadership or temporary supervision in at least 20 more. Those subject to the Fresh Start procedures would acquire a new identity in time for the next school year.

Ministers are planning Congressional-style hearings on the Education Bill, which will form the centrepiece of Wednesday's Queen's Speech, as the first stage of a commitment to opening up the Parliamentary process.

Mr Blunkett told *The Times* that the hearings would put into action little-used procedures to introduce a fresh style of consultation. Expert witnesses would guide MPs on legislation to ensure that new measures were workable.

He said: "Having served on numerous Bills, I know how cut off they are from the world that is carrying on its business in the normal way. I think Parliament would gain a great deal more esteem from listening to people who have got a contribution to make."

The new approach will begin this week when Mr Blunkett addresses all 4,000 civil servants in his department in Westminster Central Hall. "Many of them will never have seen previous Secretaries of State. I want to offer them a new beginning to harness their talents."

State and independent schools will receive a similar appeal today in a letter from Mr Blunkett.



Head start: Claire Ward at the hairdresser's in her constituency. Her next task is to find a home

## Victor is missing a share of the spoils

BY DANNY MCGORRY

CLAIRE WARD, Labour's youngest woman MP ever, still has no office in the Commons, no telephone and nowhere to live in her constituency. "Apart from that everything is fabulous," she said. "I'm wandering around with all my worldly goods in a couple of carrier bags."

Miss Ward, who was 25 last Friday as she was sworn in as MP for Watford, is among the Labour newcomers honest enough to admit they never expected to be elected.

She had expected to spend the weekend continuing her studies to be a solicitor. But yesterday she was roaming an empty House of Commons searching for somewhere to put her papers.

"A friend who has been promoted in the new Government said I could use their office and this is a good time when nobody else is around to try to find your way around this maze."

Later she was back visiting estate agents in Watford trying to find somewhere to live. That apart, her only indulgence has been a visit to the hairdresser's.

## Smith signals changes at the top of BBC

Carol Midgley hears the Heritage Secretary voice doubts over John Birt's reforms

THE Heritage Secretary yesterday pledged to review the structure of the BBC. Chris Smith likened it to the "internal market" of the National Health Service.

Mr Smith, expressing concern over the efficiency of the corporation, said he would be meeting John Birt, the Director-General, and the board of governors in the next few weeks. He said that while the much criticised reforms introduced by Mr Birt last summer had been intended to introduce competition within the BBC and increase efficiency, he worried they may have had the opposite effect. Mr Smith also stressed that the Government wished to enhance the BBC's public service role, not to see it "disintegrated".

Speaking on *Mediumwave* on Radio 4, Mr Smith said he was concerned about the BBC's new managerial structure. "It mirrors quite closely what happened with the internal market of the NHS. It is a quasi-market, not a real market, which is supposed to inject competition into the system to make it more efficient. But my worry is whether it has actually made it less efficient."

He added: "I think one of the things we need to do is see whether the BBC is fulfilling its public service role, whether it is doing it efficiently, whether the licence fee payer is getting good value for money... and whether the role of the board of governors is a good one. They are both the regulator of what the BBC does and also ultimately the managers, and that dual role is also something I want to look at."

Mr Smith hinted that he may wish to appoint new members to the board

and would consider all positions, including the chairmanship of the BBC, currently filled by Sir Christopher Bland. He said: "I will be wanting to meet with them and talk with them and form my own judgment about the direction in which they are currently wanting to take the BBC."

Mr Smith said that he fully supported the view put forward by Michael Jackson, the new Channel 4 chief executive, that the channel should concentrate less on foreign imports and more on British-based programmes and film making.

He said the Government had no intention of privatising Channel 4, adding: "One thing I am absolutely determined is that C4 should retain its remit to do things differently that cater for minority audiences."

He also promised to look into the

role of satellite television buying up the rights to major sporting events. "My aim is to ensure that ordinary viewers and listeners should have good access to sporting events. They shouldn't have to buy a satellite dish or to subscribe to a satellite channel in order to have access to sport. There are many people in this country who cannot afford to do that."

The BBC put out a statement which said: "The BBC would look forward to having discussions with Mr Smith. We are always open to scrutiny but the most rigorous and independent audit carried out before the recent licence fee renewal gave the BBC a clean bill of health, confirmed significant improvements in efficiency and showed that it provides excellent value for money."

Letters, page 21

## Expert help for MPs is an 'old Labour' idea

ONLY eight pieces of legislation in 16 years have been subjected to the outside scrutiny that David Blunkett plans for the education Bill.

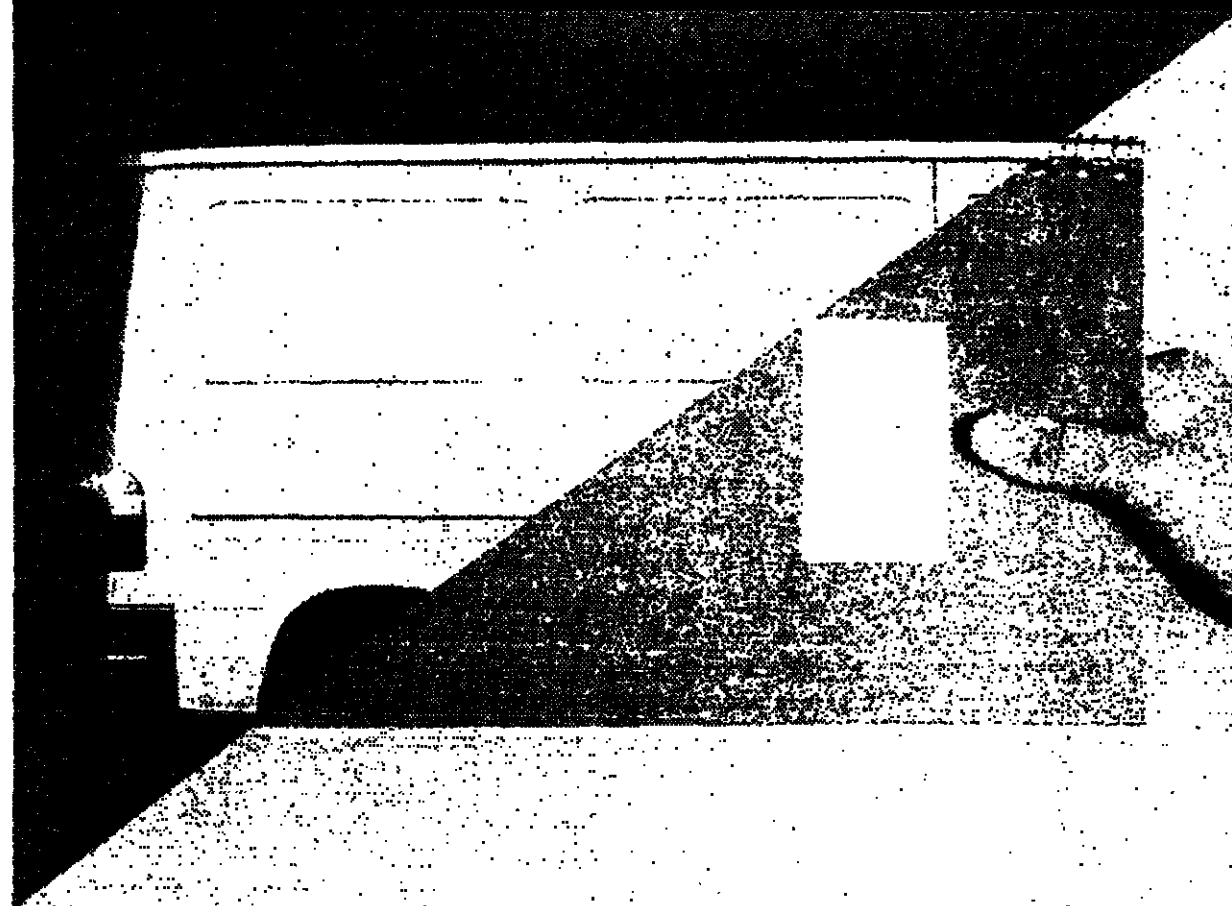
First proposed by George Cunningham, then a Labour MP, in the early 1970s, special standing committees were introduced in 1981 to give Parliament direct access to independent experts.

Mr Blunkett admitted that the new administration's heavy legislative programme would be the biggest obstacle to using the system, although

he was prepared to countenance amendments to his proposals.

Vernon Bogdanor, the Oxford authority on constitutional matters, said yesterday: "It would be useful to have more witnesses to advise MPs. The arrangement is more like the system in the European Parliament, which combines select and standing committees." Professor Bogdanor was on the Hansard Society commission which, in 1993, recommended greater use of the special committees.

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## Convicted bomber in Sinn Fein office bid

BY NICHOLAS WATTS  
AND ARTHUR LEAHLEY

SINN FEIN has appointed a convicted IRA bomber to set up offices at the House of Commons for the party's two MPs.

Siobhan O'Hanlon, who has served a jail term for explosives offences, opened discussions with officials at the Commons after Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness won Belfast West and Mid Ulster respectively at the general election. On Saturday *The Times* disclosed that Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness want to exploit every facility at Westminster short of taking their seats, in a softening of the party's traditional abstentionist policy.

Last week Ms O'Hanlon, a leading member of Sinn Fein, wrote to the Commons accountant setting out the party's demands that the MPs have offices and use of the Commons library and postal service. Mr Adams has called Sinn Fein's policy "active abstentionism" because he and Mr McGuinness will still refuse to take the oath of allegiance to the Queen.

Sinn Fein is likely to experience difficulties with its plans because the Liberal Democrats, who are in charge of allocating offices to the smaller parties, said that they would not make any effort to help. The Government has dismissed the plans as "playing games with democracy". Conservative MPs are determined to prevent the move.

David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, said yesterday that he would consult other parties and would be "very surprised if something isn't done about this".

More than 1,000 mourners attended the funeral of a Roman Catholic man who was killed in Portadown two weeks ago. Five men were remanded in custody yesterday at Lurgan, Co Armagh, charged with murdering Robert Hamill. A sixth man was charged later.

Leading article, page 20



Squadron Leaders Cedric Hughes, left, Tony Cowan, centre, and Bill Purchase will fly up to 500 miles a day in the two RAF Chipmunks, shown practising yesterday

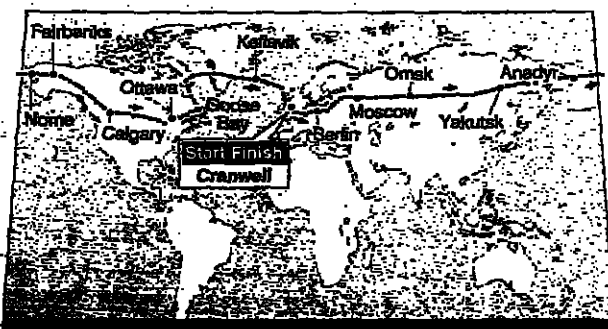
## Chipmunks to cross Siberia in quest for new air route

BY MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ONLY seven years ago the sight of two RAF aircraft flying over Moscow would have heralded the start of a third world war. Now three RAF pilots are to take part in the first military expeditionary flight across the former Soviet Union at the invitation of the Russian Air Force.

The goodwill mission, codenamed Exercise Northern Venture, is the first such flight by any foreign air force since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1991. One of its aims will be to establish an air route across Russia for business and private aircraft.

Squadron Leaders Tony Cowan, 51, Cedric Hughes, 60, and Bill Purchase, 56, have permission to fly over Russia and land in remote regions east of the Ural Mountains in two single-seat Chipmunk turbo-prop aircraft. It is hoped that a navigator from the Russian Air Force will fly with them to assist in landing at 15 airfields within the country.



The flight, supported by an Islander aircraft carrying the third pilot with extra fuel and supplies, will be part of a six-week trip around the world. It is due to begin from London City Airport on May 20.

Squadron Leader Cowan, who will lead the expedition, said that some of the airfields east of the Urals were so remote that it was unclear what the facilities would be like. However, the Chipmunk, which was the trainer aircraft for the RAF, Royal Navy and Army for 50 years until it ended its service in March this year, can fly on four-star

petrol as well as aviation gasoline.

Squadron Leader Cowan, who is currently attached to RAF Cranwell, the training establishment, said: "One of the unknowns for Westerners is flying in Russia. It was closed to us from 1918 until the Berlin Wall came down. The scale of the country — 5,000 miles across, with ten time zones — will be difficult to grasp."

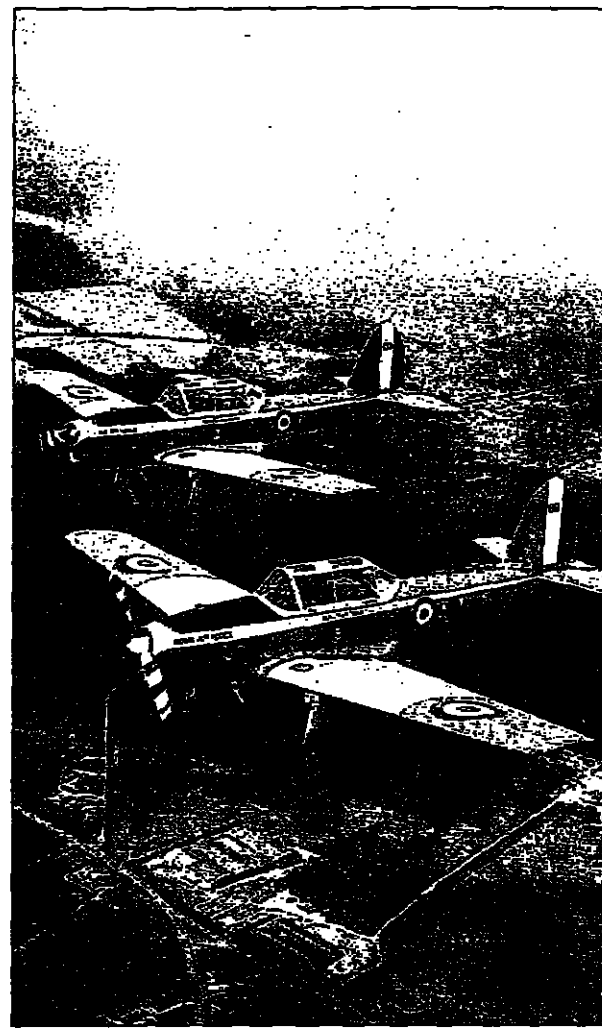
From Moscow, the two modified de Havilland Chipmunks, bearing RAF markings, will head east, following the line of the Trans-Siberian

railway, towards the Bering Strait, a distance of more than 4,000 miles. East of the Urals, the expeditionary flight will cross Siberia; a similar trip planned last year had to be abandoned because of forest fires there.

The Chipmunks have been equipped with satellite-linked navigation equipment and all three men have been trained in survival skills because much of the land east of the Urals is swamp.

Squadron Leader Cowan hopes to fly the 145-horsepower Chipmunks up to 500 miles a day, cruising at about 100 knots at an altitude of 5,000ft. The round trip will be about 14,000 miles with 45 stops and has been divided into four sections: European, Russian, North American and North Atlantic. The trip is costing about £75,000, which is being met by sponsors including British Aerospace, British Telecom and GEC.

*The Times* will follow the progress of Exercise Northern Venture in further reports.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Stars raise cash for soccer fight

More than £500,000 is expected to have been raised from a pop concert held on Saturday to fund legal action on behalf of the 96 people crushed to death at Hillsborough football ground. Entertainers who joined their fees before an audience of 34,000 at Liverpool's Anfield ground included the Manic Street Preachers and the comedian Frank Skinner. Victims' families are campaigning for fresh inquests. They blame police error for the 1989 disaster.

### Death in fire

A woman died after a fire swept through her home in Tamworth, Staffordshire. All four daughters of Deborah Simons, 39, who was divorced, were out at the time. Firefighters pulled her out of a bedroom and tried to resuscitate her but she was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.

### 'Spy' inquest

An inquest opens today into the deaths in 1992 in California of Ian Spiro, who said that he worked for the intelligence services, and his family. Evidence about the deaths of Mr Spiro, 46, and his wife and three children will be disclosed to the West Cumbria Coroner at Whitehaven.

### Killer recaptured

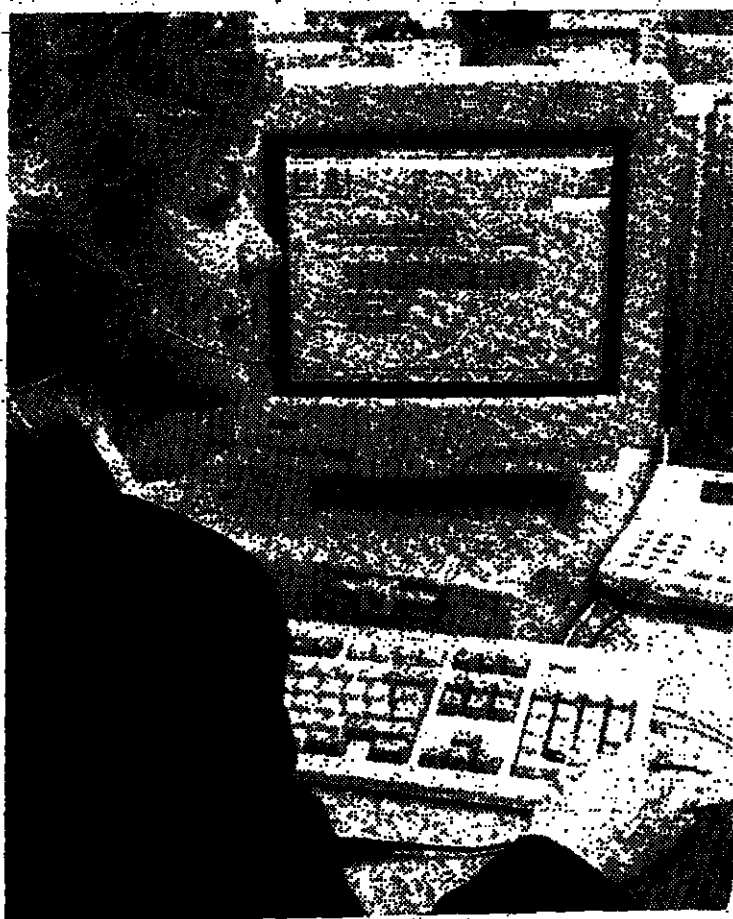
A murderer who escaped from Wellingborough jail, in Northamptonshire, last month was recaptured as he returned to the area where he killed his grandmother in 1984. Frank Winslow-Smith was stopped in St Albans after a chase involving police cars and a helicopter.

### Cheese with love

A Hebridean cheese, which was banned in Italy in the late 1960s because it was said to be aphrodisiac qualities, is to be produced again. The creamery on Islay, which was closed last year, is to be reopened in July or August and will once more make Dunlop cheese.

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## UN sharpens its axe in shake-up for 21st century

THE United Nations is preparing a radical restructuring of its humanitarian and development functions as part of a sweeping reform plan intended to ready the organisation for the next century.

Officials say that plans are being made to consolidate disparate UN agencies and departments in a move that threatens some of the largest fiefdoms of the organisation's system. The UN Development Programme, the UN Fund for Population Activities, the UN Children's Fund and the three economic departments of the UN Secretariat are to be brought together in what has been tentatively titled the Development Operations Group or "Dog".

The Department of Humanitarian Affairs at UN headquarters in New York, which was created at Britain's

The biggest fiefdoms of the United Nations are under threat from a move to merge its scattered agencies, James Bone writes from New York

insistence after the exodus of the Iraqi Kurds and the floods in Bangladesh in 1991, will be wrapped into the Geneva-based UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General, is under pressure to revamp the organisation to win back the wholehearted support of the United States, which owes more than \$1 billion (£620 million) in dues to the world body.

The UN chief has promised to unveil his blueprint for reform in July and has appointed Maurice

Strong, a Canadian businessman and UN expert, to prepare the report. The first details of the planned restructuring began to seep out at UN headquarters, as agency heads and other senior officials gathered in New York last week to discuss the changes.

Questions still remain, however, about the place of the World Food Programme, whose work is three quarters humanitarian relief and one quarter development. Also uncertain is how the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation will fit into

the new structure. The Departments of Political Affairs and Peacekeeping Operations at UN headquarters are expected to remain separate, although they will work more closely together. The cumbersome Department of Public Information has already been renamed the Office for Communications and Media Services and a committee set up to reorient its work.

Mr Annan has pledged to cut 1,000 posts by attrition from the 10,000-strong bureaucracy of the UN Secretariat by the end of the century, saving tens of millions of dollars a year. But there is growing concern about the ageing of the UN staff, which has been caused by a long-running hiring freeze. The average age of the permanent UN staff is now 48 and about half are due to

retire over the next ten years. Only 5 per cent of staff in the UN Secretariat are under 35.

Germany, meanwhile, is pushing for the creation of a new World Environment Organisation and is offering office space in Bonn which is to be vacated when the German Government moves to Berlin. The proposed body would take over from the troubled UN Environment Programme, which is based in Nairobi, and the Commission for Sustainable Development created after the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, is expected to make his country's pitch for the new organisation at an environmental summit scheduled to take place at UN headquarters at the end of next month.

## Rescuers in Iran race to reach areas hit by quake

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

AN INTERNATIONAL relief operation was gathering momentum last night to help Iran to cope with the aftermath of an earthquake that devastated a remote, mountainous area in the east of the country, killing at least 2,400 people and injuring thousands more.

Aid workers expected the toll to rise when rescue workers reached areas cut off by landslides and piles of rubble. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies appealed in Geneva for about £5 million to assist 60,000 survivors for the next four months in the area bordering Afghanistan.

Iranian television showed mass destruction in the stricken zone, with dazed children and weeping villagers wander-

ing aimlessly through shattered streets lined with bodies covered in sheets. Some of the victims were crushed to death, others buried alive under the rubble of mudbrick houses. Villagers tore at the rubble with spades and even with bare hands to free trapped victims.

Hospital wards overflowed with victims, with doctors treating many in corridors. Most of the victims were women and children who were either at home or in school when the earthquake, measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale, struck on Saturday shortly after midday, a time when many men were out working in the fields.

Despite the impressive efforts of its own experienced disaster relief teams, Tehran lost little time in brushing aside its political differences with the West to appeal for help when the scale of the tragedy made clear it could not cope alone.

Two previous quakes this year had already depleted emergency resources. France was the first to help, dispatching a plane loaded with emergency supplies. Washington was expected to offer aid

through international organisations. Germany, ignoring a recent diplomatic row with Tehran over accusations that the Iranian leadership ordered the murder of dissidents in Berlin, said it was prepared to send emergency aid.

Kuwait made a similar announcement and the Saudi-based Organisation of the Islamic Conference appealed to its 52 member states to extend all forms of urgent humanitarian assistance.

A British humanitarian organisation, International Rescue Corps, was last night refused visas by the Iranian Embassy in London to visit the quake site.

Hamid Reza Ghaffarzadeh, a UN Development Programme official who played a similar role in last year's earthquake in Iran, left his office in Tehran to link up with staff from the World Food Programme and UN High Commissioner for Refugees based in Mashhad before travelling onward.

"The area is completely cut off," said Ilfkar Ali, a UN spokesman in Tehran. "The communications are down. No one has been able to contact us. There is a great distance to be covered. The flights are only up to Mashhad and there is a seven-hour trip beyond that."

Tens of thousands were left homeless by the quake, whose impact centred on an arid, rural area around the town of Qayen in Khorasan province, 90 miles west of the Afghan border. The Iranian Red Crescent said about 200 villages

had been severely damaged or flattened across a 60-mile swath of territory between the towns of Qayen and Birjand, with 10,000 homes destroyed. Water supplies and power lines were also cut.

Qayen's Governor said his region needed doctors, blood, ambulances, food, heavy earth-moving equipment and devices to locate possible survivors.

Qayen's Governor said his region needed doctors, blood, ambulances, food, heavy earth-moving equipment and devices to locate possible survivors. The quake toppled a hospital wall in the western Afghan city of Herat, crushing five people to death. (Reuters)



Emergency relief teams search wreckage yesterday in an Iranian village flattened by Saturday's earthquake.

## Frantic villagers battle to save lives

FROM STEVEN SWINDELLS IN QAYEN, IRAN

THE wailing and sobbing of grieving relatives echoed through several Iranian villages yesterday as they watched the mangled bodies of family members being pulled from the rubble caused by the country's huge earthquake.

The villagers were still dazed a day after the quake, which measured 7.1 on the Richter scale, hit eastern Iran. During a six-hour tour of this area close to Afghanistan, I did not see any survivors brought out from the rubble in three villages where cranes were lifting heavy debris.

"I have lost my daughter," screamed one woman in her fifties, raising her arms in despair as she roamed the dusty, rubble-strewn streets of Hadjiabad. Her daughter had been engaged to be married, relatives said.

In the nearby village of Abiz, a man in his late forties stood next to the bodies of his sons, aged four and eight, wrapped in shrouds with only their battered faces showing. The bodies were laid on what used to be the front door of their home. "I was away from the house working. My children were alone," he cried.

A despondent seven-year-old boy watched as relatives took his mother's body from their flattened home. A rescue worker, trying to comfort him, gave him biscuits. The boy was too stunned to react. "There aren't enough women left to clean the dead women," said one cleric, referring to the Islamic rite that precedes the burial ceremony. He said women from nearby areas were being brought in to perform the ritual.

Hossein Madaar, 20, stood atop his flattened brick house in Esbidan, 30 miles southeast of Qayen, crying over the loss of his 10-year-old sister and 16-year-old brother. His clothes were covered in dust.

People in Qayen said about 100 houses and other buildings were damaged in the town, but there were no signs of major damage. (Reuters)

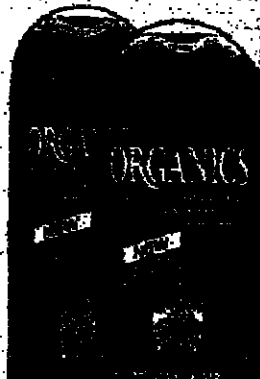
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## Gold from Holocaust victims 'laundered right up to the closing stages of war'



Himmler, head of the SS, dealt directly with the secret numbered account

## Swiss bank official had direct contact with Himmler's office

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

THE SS maintained a secret numbered account in a leading Swiss bank to launder money obtained from gold and jewellery plundered from concentration camp victims, and even received credit facilities, a Swiss newspaper reported yesterday.

The *SonntagsZeitung* said former East German documents held in the German Federal Archive showed that Cr dit Suisse, now Switzerland's second largest bank, dealt directly with the SS through two parallel operations. The archives show that some transactions took place in the final stages of the Second World War, when the role of Hitler's elite unit in carrying out the genocide of millions of Jews, Gypsies and opponents was more widely known. It also claimed that the bank knew who it was dealing with.

In one operation, Deutsche Wirtschaftsbetriebe (DWB), a front company set up by the SS, received credit facilities from Cr dit Suisse. DWB organised the revaluation of the belongings of Holocaust victims, including gold teeth and other valuables, through the German central bank. One document shows that DWB

received a payment of SwFr50,000 from Cr dit Suisse to its account at the Deutsche Bank in Berlin on February 14, 1945, not long before the end of the war. The payment was listed as the reimbursement of a cash advance account.

The newspaper also revealed that the SS held a secret account at Cr dit Suisse, identified by a number, 54 941. Power of attorney was held by Leo Volk, a senior SS officer who handled financial affairs in Hitler's elite unit.

The *SonntagsZeitung* named a bank employee who sometimes had direct contact with the office of Heinrich Himmler, head of the SS, to deal with the secret account.

When the Allies sought to freeze Nazi assets, the SS tried to conceal the ownership of the account in 1945 by transferring the power of attorney to Alfred Kurzmeyer, a director of Deutsche Bank who also held a Swiss passport. He is known to have made frequent trips to Switzerland during the Second World War.

Cr dit Suisse was unavailable for comment last night. But in a first reaction to *SonntagsZeitung*, the bank



said the affair was regrettable and it would add the new evidence to internal investigations. Swiss politicians reacted with shock to the news, which establishes that a Swiss bank knowingly dealt with Nazi commanders rather than merely with individuals subsequently linked to the SS. In February, Cr dit Suisse paid about SwFr33 million (£13.5 million) to a humanitarian fund to compensate Holocaust victims. The head of the fund gave a warning this weekend that first payments, due this summer, were likely to be delayed because of disagreements over the management board.

The newspaper's report puts further pressure on Swiss bankers, who have been obliged since last year to search through their accounts for millions of dollars of unclaimed assets belonging to Holocaust victims or their heirs, alleged to be hidden since the war.

So far, most of the evidence of financial dealings with the Nazis have been based on Allied intelligence reports held in American archives or on Swiss material. But the latest revelations give an indication of how much more evidence may be provided by the archives of other European countries, including Germany, which have not received the same close scrutiny.

A preliminary report by the United States Government on the Nazi gold transactions last week underlined the way that the Swiss National Bank and other neutral countries bought hush from the Germans during the Second World War. The Eizenstat report accused them of helping to finance Nazi Germany's war effort and apparently prolonging the length of the war. But it contained few references to the role of private banks.

## Pretoria launches attack on wave of 'Afro-pessimism'

THE South African Government has brought out a pamphlet reviewing the Government's achievements at mid-term - six months late.

Questions have been raised about the use of public money to print and distribute the flagrantly self-praising pamphlet. The document is part of a government strategy to deal with "Afro-pessimism", a mood which operates partly both abroad and among South Africa's whites.

In the eyes of Afro-pessimists, the whole Continent is doomed to an interminable cycle of corruption, authoritarianism, famine and war. South Africa's African National Congress-led Government has run hard into this mood as it struggles to encourage its own business community and international investors. Without their confidence, it cannot hope to secure the economic growth it needs to overcome the mountainous unemployment which lies at the root of most of the country's problems. But more fundamentally still, South Africa is now feeling, and asserting, its continental leadership.

This position is no longer really contested: the other large African countries - Sudan, Algeria, Zaire and Nigeria - are all at war or in chaos and none can begin to compete either with South Africa's economic strength or the positive international image President Mandela has given his country.

As continental leaders, South Africa's elite sees Afro-pessimism and the assumptions that surround it as an affront to their self-respect and virtually a suggestion that things would have been better if the continent had stayed under white-minority rule. They want to assert that Africans can govern them-

South Africa is seeking to boost the morale of its white community, writes R.W. Johnson from Johannesburg

selves democratically and well, that they are not innately backward or violent, and that their economies can grow.

This is why Thabo Mbeki, the Deputy President, has been giving speeches in America in which he talks of "an African Renaissance" and it is also the reason why he has worked so closely with the United States in trying to bring a solution to the problems of Zaire. It is not just that Mr Mbeki wants to show Washington that South Africa can be a reliable ally, but he also fears that, should Zaire explode into further and chaos, it would confirm Afro-pessimists in their views, making all that South Africa wants to achieve more difficult.

There is, however, a problem. Crime remains high and in recent weeks, despite official attempts to show that crime is falling, public morale about the problem has sunk to new depths, particularly in Johannesburg. Much of the crime is violent and continues to produce waves of white emigrants either to other parts of the country or abroad.

It is difficult to see how the Government can maintain local investment confidence unless it gets on top of the crime wave. The confidence of the white community counts, not only because foreign businessmen tend to mix with them, but also because most foreigners will not invest if the locals are reluctant to do so.

## Zaire rebels resume march on Kinshasa

FROM REUTERS IN LUBUMBASHI

REBELS in Zaire yesterday said they had abandoned a pledge to South Africa's President Mandela and resumed their advance towards the capital, Kinshasa.

Bizima Karaha, the rebel "Foreign Minister", also told a news conference in Lubumbashi that the rebels would storm Kinshasa if Archbishop Laurent Monsengwo accepted his election as Speaker of the Zaire parliament.

The archbishop was appointed on Saturday in the hope that he could mediate a peace deal between President Mobutu and the rebels.

Mr Karaha said that, over

the past few days, Zairian troops backed by the Angolan rebel group, Unita, and former Rwandan troops had attacked rebel positions near the town of Kinshasa, 125 miles east of Kinshasa, but had been driven back.

"Mobutu has used the talks to reinforce his troops, bring in Unita elements, former Rwandan troops, and consolidate his position in Kinshasa," he said.

"Our response to this is that we are abandoning our pledge and we are now advancing and will continue to advance. We shall now talk and fight, and fight and talk."

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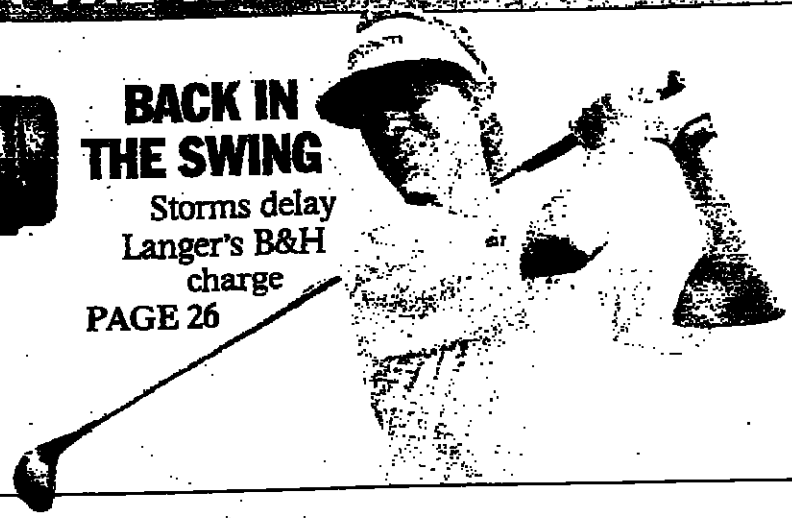


TODAY IN THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

**DRIVING RAIN**  
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at Monaco PAGE 27



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Storms delay  
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charge  
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**STAR  
ECLIPSED**  
Mary King  
is second  
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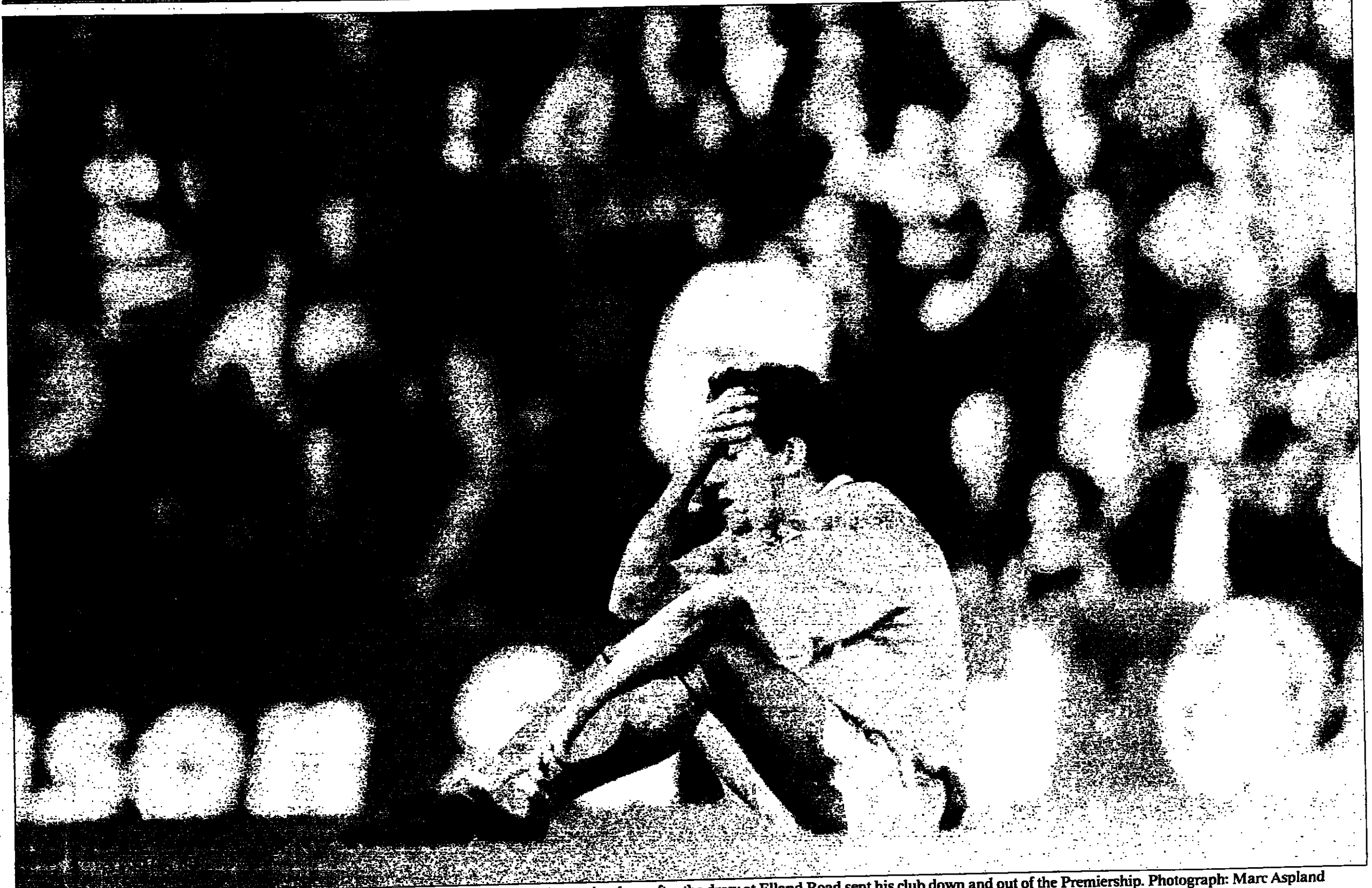
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# TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MAY 12 1997

COVENTRY ESCAPE AGAIN ON BLACKBURN FOOTBALL



Fallen idol: Juninho, the Brazilian whose goal briefly gave Middlesbrough hope, sits alone after the draw at Elland Road sent his club down and out of the Premiership. Photograph: Marc Aspland

## Middlesbrough down in flames

Leeds United.....1  
Middlesbrough.....1

By OLIVER HOLT  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

BRYAN ROBSON'S bold attempt to transplant the exotic skills of Brazil and Italy to Teesside ended in failure and the utter despair of relegation on the barren land of Elland Road yesterday. A series of wildly expensive signings once acclaimed as the work of a visionary now stand condemned as an act of grand footballing folly. Sent down, in the end, by the three points when they failed to fulfil their fixture against Blackburn Rovers on December 21, Middlesbrough failed to secure the win they needed. While goals from Dion Dublin and Paul Williams at White Hart

Lane saved Coventry City for the tenth time on the final day and sent down Sunderland, who lost 1-0 at Wimbledon, Middlesbrough could only manage a deflected shot from Juninho to counter Brian Deane's headed second-half goal. It was not enough. It was a bleak day for the North East and the revival of football in the region. The FA Cup Final against Chelsea at Wembley next Saturday will provide a measure of consolation, although their players will have to be dragged up off the floor. But their relegation may rob the Premiership of Juninho, who has illuminated this season like a shooting star. It is likely the team, a blend of superstars and journeymen that has rarely gelled, will now disintegrate. Robson even backtracked a little last night from his earlier insistence that his stars would stay. "I will have to sit down with my

first-team players and get their thoughts on the position of the club now," he said. Emerson, who caused so much agonising earlier in the season with his trysts to Brazil, was substituted midway through the second half yesterday and stalked off straight down the tunnel, a symptom of everything that was wrong with the club. Ravanelli, who scored 31 goals amid the mediocrity but was criticised by team-mates for returning to Italy for treatment on his strained back, was not fit. At the end, Juninho fell to the floor and would not be comforted. The only vestige of hope now for them may be a High Court appeal against the Premier League's three-point penalty. "At the end of the day," Steve Gibson, the Middlesbrough chairman, said, "we have been relegated because of a decision by grey men in grey suits

### BOTTOM OF TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southampton	38	10	11	17	50	56	41
Coventry	38	9	14	15	38	64	41
Sunderland	38	10	10	18	35	53	40
Middlesbrough	38	10	12	16	51	60	39
North Forest	38	6	16	16	31	59	34

behind closed doors. Whether we will take action is for me to know. I will do what is best for the club." A female streaker had lightened the tension a little just before the kick-off. She brought a smile to the face of Juninho but it did not last. He gave his all, as usual, but so desperate has he become, so apparently lacking in confidence in the rest of his team-mates, that he began by trying to beat Leeds United on his own. Leeds, who had not conceded a goal at home since Boxing Day,

forged the best early chance when Lilley wrestled aside Blackmore on the edge of the Middlesbrough area. His shot cannoned up off the body of Roberts and left him, fleetingly, with an open goal but his weak shot was cleared. At the other end, Stamp had a fierce shot tipped over the bar by Martyn and then Juninho produced the game's best piece of skill by controlling an awkward ball from Pearson on the half-way line and slipping it past Hall. Two minutes before the interval, Juninho played another perfectly weighted pass to Stamp, who needed to provide only the simplest of touches to free Beck, unmarked again, in the centre. Once more, the ball failed to reach the Danish forward. In the half's dying seconds, though, Middlesbrough escaped. Mustoe's defensive header fell to Bowyer 15 yards out. He sliced his volley wide.

Nine minutes after half-time, Hignett, who had been paralysed by nerves, paid for the poverty of his performance when he was replaced by Kinder. Almost immediately, Juninho forged another chance for Middlesbrough when he slipped a through-ball between Leeds's two central defenders but Beck's left-foot toe-poke was saved by Martyn at the second attempt. Kinder brought a new urgency to Middlesbrough's left flank and in the 69th minute, Robson took Emerson off, prompting his show of petulance and delighted cries of "Emerson's going home". Four minutes after that, as Middlesbrough's Premiership life ebbed away, Rush nearly sealed their fate when he pounced on Deane's nod back and fired his shot in low at Roberts. The goalkeeper saved with his legs and when the ball was played back in, Lilley's tap-in was ruled offside.

There was, though, to be no reprieve for Middlesbrough. Fourteen minutes from the end, Wallace, a substitute for Rush, curled a cross in from the right which was met by Deane's head and dispatched firmly beyond Roberts. Some Middlesbrough heads went down, but not Juninho's. Three minutes later, he cut in from the left and his right-foot shot was deflected off Bowyer and beyond Martyn. Middlesbrough mounted a furious late assault but the goal they needed would not come. LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): N. Martyn — G. Hall, D. Webster, G. Kelly, A. Dongo — I. Bann, L. Bowyer, L. Radford, I. Sharpe — B. Deane, D. Lilley. MIDDLESBROUGH (4-4-1-1): B. Roberts — C. Fleming, N. Pearson, G. Fesha, C. Blackmore — C. Hignett (sub V. Hargreaves), P. Stamp, A. Mustoe, Emerson — Juninho — M. Beck. Referee: A. White.

United crowned, page 28  
Coventry escape again, page 29  
Sunderland relegated, page 29  
Barcelona win, page 31

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# Balding keeps a tight rein on Badminton

The fact that three-day eventing is not the television sport it once was is not the BBC's fault, as it set out to show on Saturday by wheeling out the sort of treatment that even the mainstay of mainstream sports would aspire to — the best part of an hour on *Grandstand*, followed by more than two hours of live, uninterrupted coverage on BBC2 of the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials. And not a princess or dashing consort in sight... well, not on horseback anyway.

From a television point of view, the cross-country stage of a three-day event is a sporting oddity. On the one hand it combines the genuine excitement of watching rider and horse in nostril-flaring close-up with slapstick comedy

(Hang on, Katie, hang on — oh, it's another ducking). On the other, these thrills and spills have precious little bearing on the overall outcome. That is dictated by the dressage, which the BBC could not be bothered to show and by the showjumping yesterday that many of us — no doubt — could not be bothered to watch. For those who missed it, Ian Stark and Stanwick Ghost knocked down five fences including the first, a feat of scoreboard vandalism that reduced Michael Tucker, the BBC's main commentator, to total silence.

But despite the proven importance of each gaudily-painted showjumping pole, it is the cross-country that captures the imagination... and the television audiences. As the afternoon progressed and



MATTHEW BOND  
TV ACTION REPLAY

the weather moved from foul to fair, three things impressed. The first two were technical — some excellent overhead camera work from a circling helicopter or airship, which gave a real idea of the layout of the course, and some ingenious parallel pictures of horses at full gallop taken from a camera mounted on some sort of swift but silent vehicle.

The third success was human. Clare Balding. The BBC has tried various ways of presenting three-day eventing

in recent years and normally what results is either too glibly or too pushy. Balding was neither — she has an excellent microphone voice, knows her horses and knew the course well enough to stand in as commentator while her guests watched the normally painful replays. She coaxed mild controversy from Mark Phillips, who thought it was the easiest course for some years. She cajoled humour from an exhausted Pippa Funnell: "I think I should

definitely give up smoking for next year." And she coped admirably with the unexpected, when Stark inexplicably left her interviewing a tree with 90 seconds to go.

In the commentary box, Tucker and his co-commentators, Lorna Clarke and Lucinda Green, were demonstrating a depth of knowledge that at times bordered on the comical. Clarke and Green competing to show who knew more about a particular Swedish rider. "She's a pilot." "She used to be an acrobatic skier." She's the daughter of a priest. Eventually, Green moved reluctantly on... to tell us about a horse bred by Eddie Macken's wife's mother.

Making sure that the whole thing didn't become off-puttingly incestuous were Johnnie Watherston and Wen-

dy Sheppard, the producers, who, as well as ensuring that the camera-work remained impressive throughout, also kept editorial input under rewardingly tight control. If the commentary team had built up a particular rider particularly well or simply spotted someone showing a bit of flair, they made absolutely certain that Balding grabbed a few words with whoever it was afterwards — even if she did have to barge into the weighing-in tent to get them.

Only one thing defeated their efforts, the complete inability of the otherwise enjoyable Tucker to master the electronic time-keeping. "He's ten seconds down... come on Ian... in fact he's up, not down — we're getting overexcited." At last, a soul-mate for Murray Walker.

## Allen on song to steer Monarchs to victory

FOR THE second successive week the crowd at Stamford Bridge were treated to an anxious finish but yesterday it all ended happily, with the London Monarchs beating the Scottish Claymores 16-8 (Richard Wetherell writes). With just over a minute remaining, the Claymores, the defending World League champions, got the ball back, requiring a touchdown and a two-point conversion to draw level. Starting on their own 45-yard line they got as close as the Monarchs' six-yard line. Then, an incomplete pass and a penalty took them backwards before another Claymores penalty ended the game with five seconds remaining.

Clive Allen, the former England soccer striker, opened the scoring for London with the first field goal of his new career. He added another from 27 yards and a third goal in the final quarter. In stark contrast, the Claymores missed three long-range field goals.

## Cambridge waltz home

BALLROOM DANCING: Cambridge won the Varsity match for the second year in succession, inflicting a convincing defeat on Oxford over all four dances — waltz, quick step, cha-cha and jive (Ruth Gledhill writes). In 24 years, Oxford have now won the Varsity match 16 times, compared to eight victories for Cambridge.

However, the Oxford B team fought back, easily defeating Cambridge over the four dances at the spacious Kelsey Keridge Hall on Saturday. Some observers put the defeat of the eight-couple Oxford A team down to a last-minute rule change, which rendered some of the leading Oxford dancers ineligible for the Varsity competition.

## McCarron shares lead

GOLF: Scott McCarron coped with the twin handicaps of a pulled hamstring and a testing breeze to join David Duval in the lead after the third round of the BellSouth Atlanta Classic in Duluth, Georgia. McCarron produced seven birdies in a round of 66, six under par. Duval, the leader after two rounds, bogeyed the final hole for a 73, and he and McCarron stood at 11-under-par 205, two strokes ahead of their fellow American, David Toms. Bill Glasson was a further three shots back, along with Nick Price, of Zimbabwe, who finished with a double bogey at the 15th and a bogey at the 17th.

## Somerset depart early

BOWLS: Somerset, the defending champions, waved goodbye to their hopes of retaining the Walker Cup when they made an undignified preliminary-round exit from the national women's double rink championship. Dorset overwhelmed the holders by an unprecedented margin of 23 shots, 45-22. In another upset, Warwickshire defeated Norfolk, after a tense finish, and by a single shot, 35-34.

## Mason keeps her title

GYMNASICS: Lisa Mason, of Huntingdon Gym Club, retained her title for a second successive year by beating Annika Reeder, of Basildon, into second place and Gemma Cuff, of Heathrow, into third at the British championships in Guildford on Saturday. Melissa Wilcox, of Bristol, won the junior championship and Katy Lennon, from Leatherhead and Dorking, the 12 and 13 years age group.

## Boldon sprints in

ATHLETICS: Ato Boldon, of Trinidad, ran the fastest 100 metres of the year in winning a race in Modesto, California, in 9.89sec on Saturday. The time was the seventh-fastest of all time. The world record, set by Donovan Bailey, of Canada, at the Olympic Games last year, is 9.84sec. Boldon was the bronze medal-winner in the 100 and 200 metres in Atlanta.

## Carmichael on target

SHOOTING: John Carmichael, of Worcestershire, yesterday won Lord Cottesloe's Cup, the top individual award at the English VIII Club meeting at Bisley where men and women fire at ranges up to 1,200 yards. Carmichael, twice a target rifle team world championship gold medal-winner, took the trophy with 399 out of 450, the lowest score in the event for many years because of the windy conditions.

## China strike quickly

SWIMMING: China captured the first gold medal of the East Asian Games in Pusan, South Korea, yesterday when Zhu Yingwen won the women's 100 metres freestyle on the first day of competition. Zhu finished in a time of 56.72sec, followed by Guo Wei, also of China. Lee Bo-Eun, of South Korea, was third. China won 25 gold medals at the previous Games.

## Hill installed at Palace

BASKETBALL: Crystal Palace, who were expected to announce the arrival of an experienced coach this week, have plumped instead for the virtually untried Graham Hill. At 29, Hill will become the second-youngest coach in the Budweiser League. Dan Lloyd and Mark Clark, the respective assistant coaches at London Towers and the Leopards, were expected to be the front-runners for the job.

## GOLF

# Langer clings to his advantage in twilight climax

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

WEATHER delays interrupted play for more than two hours in the final round of the Benson and Hedges International Open at the 9th green this afternoon. There was a hold-up of 40 minutes soon after play started and then a longer one in the late afternoon when an electrical storm arrived in the area.

Many golfers would have been adversely affected by the disruptions, but not Bernhard Langer as he strove to win his second event in eight days. The worse the weather, the more difficult the conditions, the better he played. He is indomitable.

After taking the Italian Open with a superb last round of 64 eight days ago, Langer moved into a two-stroke lead over Lee Westwood with seven holes remaining.

At this stage, Langer was 11 under par. Westwood was one stroke ahead of Ian Woosnam and Padraig Harrington and Eduardo Romero were two shots further back.

It is hard to describe the weather conditions. One minute the sun shone and the course was playable. The next moment, huge menacing clouds would be borne in on the strong south-westerly winds. Any semblance of brightness would disappear from the sky and soon rain would be falling in sheets.

How quickly the weather changed was demonstrated in

the ten minutes it took Ian Woosnam and Eduardo Romero to complete the 9th hole and reach the 10th tee. As they walked up to the 9th green the sky above the Chilterns to their left, looked light. The moment they walked off the green they were heading towards clouds that were darker than a raven's wing. Sure enough, just as Romero waited to drive, a siren went. Play was halted and they sought refuge in a tent by the side of the tee.

Under the circumstances the 71 by Emanuele Canonica, the first man out, represented a miraculous score. Canonica eagled the 1st when, after an enormous, wind-assisted drive had travelled 380 yards, he sank his second shot, a 50-yard pitch with a sand-wedge.

## DETAILS

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated  
EARLY LEADING FINAL SCORES: 288: A. Oldcorn 75, 69, 74, 71; M. Moulden 74, 67, 74, 74; P. Harrington 71, 72, 73, 74; I. Patten 72, 69, 75, 75; M.A. Jervis 72, 69, 75, 75; S. Lums 72, 70, 70, 75; C. Dawson 70, 71, 74, 75; S. Balch 72, 70, 74, 75; P. Mitchell 69, 71, 76, 76; S. Armitage 71, 74, 70, 77; S. Webster 72, 72, 76, 73; R. Green 71, 75, 69, 74; D. Cooper 71, 73, 73, 76; S. Field 75, 69, 73, 76; S. Cannon 70, 71, 73, 71; G. Brand 71, 69, 73, 77; G. Orr 70, 74, 73, 77; S. O'Hara 70, 75, 75, 75; G. 73; P. Eades 71, 71, 77, 76; A. Collar 69, 75, 76; P. O'Donnell 71, 71, 75, 78; D. Topping 74, 69, 74, 75; P. Watson 73, 71, 72, 73; S. Torrance 74, 73, 77, 75; R. Davies 73, 71, 76, 76; I. Gledhill 74, 67, 72, 73; T. Gossie 76, 67, 75, 72; J. Lomas 69, 72, 75, 80.

A few minutes later players were hauled in off the course because of the danger of lightning.

Canonica, an Italian, dropped only two strokes all day. But perhaps he is used to leaning into the wind. After all, he comes from Pisa.

No two players demonstrated such contrasting fortunes as Andrew Oldcorn and Colin Montgomerie. Both are thought to be Scottish. Montgomerie is, though he chooses to live in Surrey. Oldcorn is not, though he lives in Edinburgh, has a Scottish accent and supports Hearts. Born in Bolton, he won the English amateur championship in 1982.

Oldcorn's round of 71 was ten strokes better than Montgomerie's 81 and meant he finished on 289, one over par, nine strokes ahead of Montgomerie. Oldcorn had no difficulty on the 2nd, a par three of 165 yards. Montgomerie found the green but then took five putts.

Once Severiano Ballesteros was asked how he had taken four putts and he replied: "I missed a two-footer for my third."

When Montgomerie was asked if it was true that he had taken five putts there was a risk of an explosion. In truth, he is making big strides in controlling his temper and he kept a sufficient grip of himself to explain that he held his



Langer, buffeted by wind and rain, refused to be distracted by conditions

putter lightly and thus found it less easy to putt well in a wind. "I have never won in a wind," Montgomerie said. It was pointed out that he had nearly won the 1992 US Open at Pebble Beach when the breeze was certainly more than a zephyr. Montgomerie

is sharper than a tack. There is never any point in trying to outsmart him. "That was because I hit my irons so close," he replied. "I didn't really have to putt that day."

Montgomerie must be dreading the arrival of this event each year. Last season

he finished with an 84. "I don't know what I'll do next year," he said. "I am not looking forward to coming back here. It is so exposed. You could play at Wentworth and it would be little more than a breeze, but here it's a gale."

RUGBY LEAGUE: INSPIRED SECOND-HALF BURST HALTS A TWO-YEAR UNBEATEN HOME RUN BY LANCASHIRE SIDE

## Leeds end proud Salford record

LEEDS Rhinos brought to an end the two-year unbeaten home league record of Salford Reds with an inspired second-half performance that enabled them to consolidate third place in the Super League.

The teams were level at 14-14 in the 56th minute, but

Leeds eventually won 33-20. They went ahead in the second minute when Blackmore's wild pass found Sterling, the wing, who went over in the corner. However, Salford responded quickly to take the lead with tries from Morley and Forber.

Sterling scored his second try from Harris's kick and Harris then nipped over from acting half back and converted his own try to give Leeds a 14-10 half-time lead.

Salford drew level through McAvoy, but Leeds then took full control with Hassan

scoring 75 yards after a smart scrum move. Holroyd added a dropped goal to make it 21-14 and Leeds then confirmed their superiority with further tries from Sheridan and Hassan, with a superb 90-yard effort.

Halifax Blue Sox staged a spectacular finale to overcome Warrington Wolves 42-30 after an exciting, 14-try spectacular that was decided only in the final eight minutes at Turf Moor.

Warrington, still finding their feet under Daryl van de Velde, their new coach, opened the scoring on eight minutes through Sculthorpe. Halifax gained the initiative with first-half tries from Bouveng Chester and the first of two from Tullagi. Tui Kohelo replied for Warrington with a try on 19 minutes, followed by the first of two from Wingfield to make the half-time score 18-16 to Halifax.

In the second half, Pearson, of Halifax, and Shefford, of Warrington, were sent to the sin-bin after an exchange of blows before Wingfield scored his second try.

Michael Jackson turned the game in Halifax's favour with his first try on 52 minutes, following a thrilling 40-metre run. He added a second after 60 minutes, after a similar burst which fully justified his man-of-the-match award. Warrington fought back through Briars and Vagana, but Halifax sealed the game with late tries from Rowley and Tullagi.

Castleford Tigers remain at the foot of the Super League after their tenth successive league defeat, against Paris Saint-Germain. Paris trailed 5-2 at the interval but second-half tries from Bergman and O'Donnell steered them to only their second league win of the season.

## Eagles hit by fourth successive defeat

Sheffield Eagles ..... 14  
Oldham Bears ..... 18

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE manner of their defeat would hardly have encouraged potential investors to purchase a stake in Sheffield Eagles's proposed public flotation.

Sheffield's fourth successive loss has dragged them into a scramble, involving four clubs, at the foot of the Super League to avoid the supposed one relegation place. However, if Oldham Bears can repeat the resolution shown yesterday at the Don Valley Stadium, they could well start to climb away from the danger zone.

Results and tables ..... 40

After losing to Halifax in the final minute of their last match, there was particular satisfaction for Oldham in only their second league victory. After Andy Goodwin's departure as coach, Bob Lidner, who has arrived back at the club as football manager, has instilled a spirit that withstood a Sheffield fight-back in the second half. His nails were out to the quick by the finish, however.

Oldham's point-scoring was confined to the first half. They ran out to Teddy Bear's Placid, and, suitably provoked, exploited Sheffield's vulnerability out wide twice in the opening six minutes. The Eagles' defence splintered in its vain pursuit of Abram, and was then caught out on the other flank by Hill, after a knock-on from the restart by Broadbent.

Apart from a try off a scrum by Stott, Sheffield appeared bereft of ideas going forward in the first period. Two further tries left them trailing 18-4 at the break, when slick handling produced a try for the dangerous Leulu. Jones, unmarked, then went over on the left after Lord supplied the scoring pass.

Instead of consolidating their advantage, Oldham suffered a bout of nerves and Garcia took advantage to race clear. Then, Broadbent was feebly allowed to twist out of a two-man embrace while Aston's one successful conversion brought Sheffield to within four points midway through the second half.

Oldham then squandered numerous chances to put the result beyond reasonable doubt. If Maloney, charging up the right, had bothered to raise his head, he would have seen Neal screaming for the ball on his inside. In a frantic finale, Atcheson gratefully got his hands on a chip by Wood before time finally ran out on the home side.

SCORERS: Sheffield: Three Stott, Garcia, Broadbent. Goal: Jones. Oldham: Three Abram, Hill, Leulu, Jones. Goal: Goodwin. SHEFFIELD EAGLES: L. Stott, W. Tams, N. Pryor, K. Stott, J.M. Garcia, R. Dwyer, M. Aston, P. Broadbent, J. Leulu, S. Edmond, D. Maloney, P. Carr, M. Wood, Subo, W. Morgan, T. Eyles, A. Thompson, D. Mace. OLDHAM BEARS: P. Atcheson, A. Leulu, H. M. D. Abram, D. Jones, F. Maloney, M. Conington, I. Stott, D. Broadbent, S. Goldsack, J. Fairbro, M. Mamo, L. Goodwin, Subo, G. Lord, P. Davidson, M. Neal, J. Clarke, R. Conroy (Wigan).

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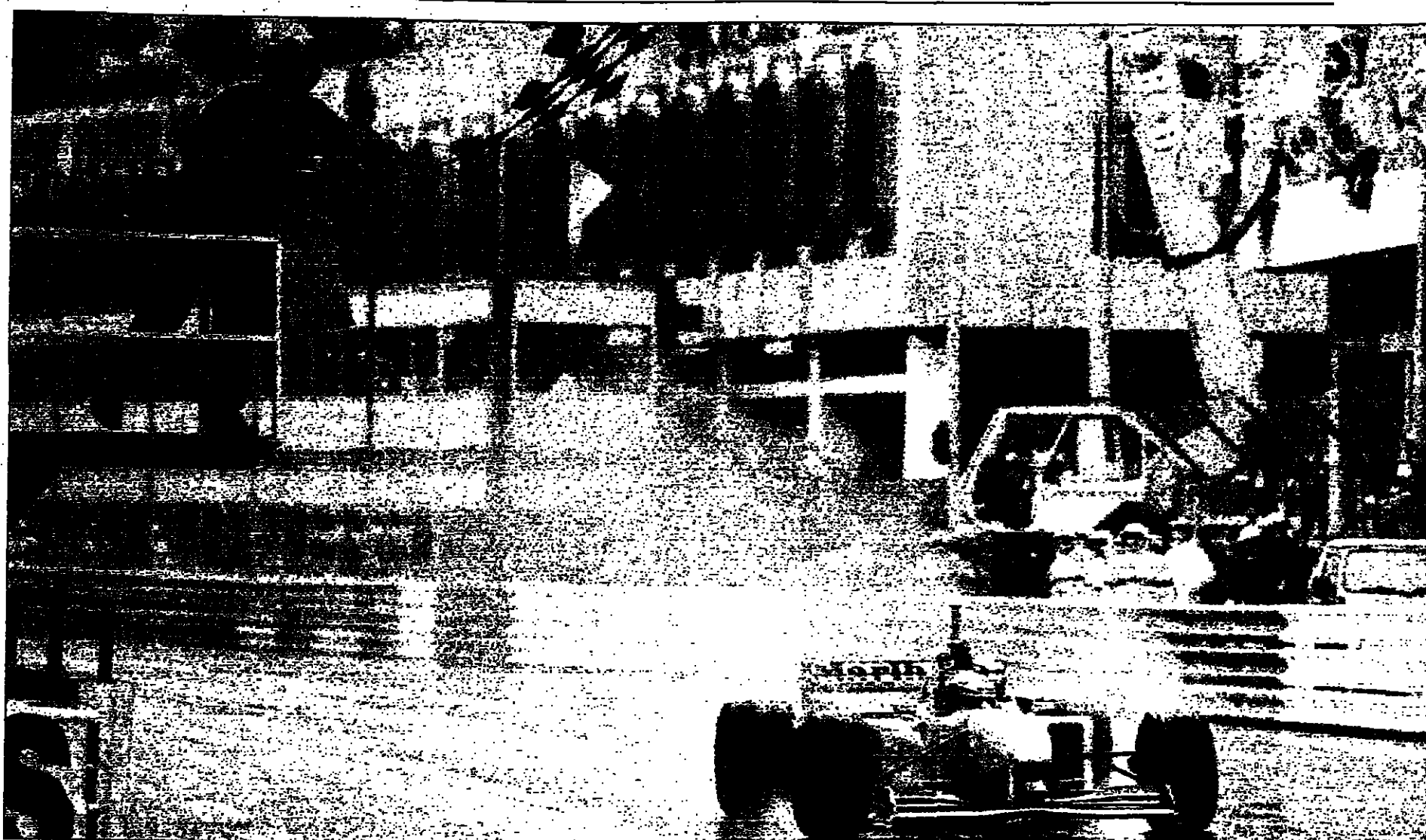
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## MOTOR RACING: FERRARI CELEBRATE MILESTONE WITH DECISIVE VICTORY IN MONACO GRAND PRIX



Michael Schumacher crosses the finish line nearly one minute ahead of the field for Ferrari's first victory in Monte Carlo since 1981. Photograph: Mike Hewitt / Allsport

## Brilliant Schumacher reigns supreme

FROM ROB HUGHES  
IN MONTE CARLO

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER, the German who has twice been world champion and will assuredly be so again, enjoyed Monte Carlo in the rain yesterday, aquaplaning to a victory which, even by his standards, demonstrated that he is the consummate Formula One driver of his era.

Schumacher chose, correctly, to race in the Ferrari spare car because it had been set up for "intermediate" conditions, rain and dry; he proved from the green light that his hunger to caress home his scarlet car — on the fiftieth anniversary of Enzo Ferrari introducing the dream machine to racing — has not diminished with the serenity that has come into his life after the recent birth of his first daughter, Gina Maria.

However, it was a day that Ferrari could enjoy even beyond the unquestioned skill of the man they pay £1 million per race. Eddie Irvine, who must now be called "Steady Eddie", has so quelled his volatile Ulster temperament that, for the third successive race, he finished on the podium, in third place. It means that Ferrari, on their precious anniversary, are omnipotent again, top of the drivers' championship with Schumacher, and top of the constructors' championship.

Separating the Ferrari drivers, bearing from Monaco to São Paulo, where he was born, Rubens Barrichello claimed

second place, the first finish and the first points for the new Stewart Ford combination. Jackie Stewart said: "I have never been happier, not from a victory, not from a championship. I was never emotional about my racing, but Paul [his son] and I sat together throughout the race, and when Rubens crossed the line we both burst out crying. But for a certain Mr Schumacher, Ferrari would have been second today."

So, a remarkable day in the wet around Monaco's lamp-posts, narrow, twisting streets and opulent harbour. It had been wet before, indeed last year, when only three finished and Schumacher himself was embarrassed to go out at the

first corner. This time, as the clouds gathered, the tension mounted. Moments before taking up his position on the grid, Schumacher mused on the decision whether to drive his own car or the spare.

"I was thinking that we had set up two solutions, one for dry and one in case it rained a little bit," he said. "I just decided in the last seconds, though with wet tyres I was concerned to see Heinz-Harald Frentzen on slicks. He could have been wrong... but once out there, it felt so bloody slow in the corners at Mirabeau, Loews and Portier that I was thinking I could run beside my car."

What is this, questions in

the mind of the master driver? Questions indeed. "Can anyone tell me what happened to my brother?" he asked immediately afterwards. His younger sibling, Ralf, had bumped into a guardrail and his Jordan slid to a halt, rather like a taxi parking, in front of the Café de Paris at the devilish Casino Square.

Michael Schumacher was, by that time, 11 laps into the race. Damon Hill, the champion, losing his grip on the road and on nearly everything else, had already slithered out on lap two, which seems to be as far as the Arrows can take him. How very sad, and how honest of Irvine to admit that, starting from fifteenth position, just behind Hill, there

had been a bunch of drivers bumping and boring. "I hit a couple of people up the rear. I was hit up the back and on the side [one of them Hill]," he said. "Fortunately the Ferrari is a very strong car."

Fortune had less to do with it as the race stretched out, as Schumacher outlasted every driver in a display that fell seven seconds short of perfection over two hours. His one lapse — though he would admit that he and Irvine were having to use the clutch into slow corners to hold back the rampant power of their Ferraris — came on lap 52 of the 62 they were able to complete in the time.

So unprepared that he did not have a visor for the wet,

nor a clear view, he erred coming towards the Devote corner, the first after the start-finish line. "I went straight" he laughed — straight across the bend, but straight into a slip road, into reverse and out again. The whole process, from miscalculation to reverse spin to back on the track, cost him less than those seven seconds, and he was leading by over a minute.

Only Barrichello and Irvine were on the same lap by the finish, though ten drivers made the distance. Olivier Panis, in his Prost, Mika Salo, in the Tyrrell, and Giancarlo Fisichella, in one of the Jordans, were in the points.

Neither of the Williams cars finished. "The choice of tyres was a team choice," the owner, Frank Williams, said. "If it had worked out it would have made us heroes. Our choice was based on a forecast of very fine drizzle for 20 to 30 minutes. Under these most difficult circumstances, the drivers could not be faulted."

True, but one was pretty nearly faultless. He is the man putting Ferrari back where countless tifosi, the addicts of the Ferrari legend, believe it belongs. "I need a driver with intelligence. I need someone to push and improve the car, I need a huge driver," Luca di Montezemolo, the president, whose long and troubled quest to resurrect the famous Italian team included gambling a fortune on luring Michael Schumacher, said. Together, they look supreme.

## RESULTS FROM MONTE CARLO

RESULT: 1, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 56.54sec (52 laps). 2, P Barrichello (Br, Stewart-Ford) at 53.20sec. 3, E Irvine (Ir, Ferrari) at 53.20sec. 4, D Panis (Fr, Prost-Mugen-Honda) at 1:04.42. 5, M Salo (Fin, Tyrrell-Ford) at 1:04.42. 6, G Fisichella (It, Jordan-Peugeot) at 1:04.42. 7, M Magnussen (Den, Stewart-Ford) at 1:04.42. 8, J Frentzen (Ger, Tyrrell-Ford) at 1:04.42. 9, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 10, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 11, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 12, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 13, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 14, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 15, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 16, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 17, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 18, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 19, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 20, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 21, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 22, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 23, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 24, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 25, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 26, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 27, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 28, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 29, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 30, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 31, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 32, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 33, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 34, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 35, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 36, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 37, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 38, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 39, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 40, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 41, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 42, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 43, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 44, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 45, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 46, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 47, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 48, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 49, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 50, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 51, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 52, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 53, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 54, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 55, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 56, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42. 57, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams-Renault) at 1:04.42. 58, J Trulli (It, Minardi-Hart) at 1:04.42. 59, J Herbert (GB, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 60, S Nakano (Jpn, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 61, N Larini (It, Sauber-Peterson) at 1:04.42. 62, J Alcazar (Sp, Benetton-Renault) at 1:04.42.

and Alcazar 14, Salo 2, 15, Larini 1. Constructors: 1, Ferrari 38pts; 2, Williams-Renault 30; 3, McLaren-Mercedes 20; 4, Benetton-Renault 13; 5, Prost-Mugen-Honda 9; 6, Jordan-Peugeot 7; 7, Stewart-Ford 6; 8, Sauber-Peterson 4; 9, Tyrrell-Ford 2.

PRACTICE TIMES: 1, Frentzen 1:18.25; 2, M Schumacher 1:18.25; 3, Villeneuve 1:18.25; 4, Fisichella 1:18.25; 5, Coulthard 1:18.77; 6, R Schumacher 1:18.94; 7, Herbert 1:19.10; 8, Hakkinen 1:19.19; 9, Alcazar 1:19.23; 10, Barrichello 1:19.25; 11, Larini 1:19.42; 12, Panis 1:19.52; 13, Hill 1:19.54; 14, Salo 1:19.54; 15, Irvine 1:19.72; 16, Dirlikov 1:19.80; 17, Berger 1:20.19; 18, Trulli 1:20.34; 19, Magnussen 1:20.51; 20, Katsuyama 1:20.56; 21, Nakano 1:20.56; 22, Verstappen 1:20.56.

GRAND PRIX TO COME: May 25: Spanish (Barcelona); Jun 15: Canadian (Montreal); Jun 23: French (Magny-Cours); Jul 13: British (Silverstone); Jul 27: German (Hockenheim); Aug 10: Hungarian (Hungaroring); Aug 24: Belgian (Spa-Francorchamps); Sep 7: Italian (Monza); Sep 21: Austrian (A-1 Ring); Sep 28: Luxembourg (Nürburgring); Oct 12: Japanese (Suzuka); Oct 26: Portuguese (Estoril).



Jackie Stewart and his son, Paul, celebrate their first points

## HOCKEY

## Teddington show mettle

Reading ..... 1  
Teddington ..... 2

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

TEDDINGTON regained the Hockey Association Cup after an exciting victory against Reading, the holders, in the final at Milton Keynes yesterday.

Teddington once again underlined their resilience in a

fiercely-fought match played in blustery winds and driving rain. After squandering three short corners in their early assault on the Reading goal, Teddington were shaken when the premier division champions scored from their first move of consequence.

Ashdown picked up a loose ball at the top of the circle and flicked it to Hoskin, who scored with a superb angled shot in the 24th minute. Barely

two minutes later Conway's blistering powers inspired Billson to score the equaliser, and the battle was joined.

The pattern changed in the second half, with Reading's attacks looking more sustained, but their failure to convert three successive short corners proved costly.

The tide turned when Teddington broke away for Conway to score in the 58th minute from a well-worked short corner.

Reading hurried themselves into a fierce offensive in the last five minutes, with Pearn and Hoskin conspicuous, but their hopes faded when Hoskin was suspended for a desperate tackle. Laslett's mid-field scheming played a prominent part in Teddington's success.

West Herts retained the Hockey Association Trophy after a 4-0 victory over De Montfort University, from Bedford. The students, 2-0 down at the interval, raised their game in the second half, but to no avail as West Herts scored twice more through Graham Day, from a short corner, and Hodgekinson. Taylor and Willis, from another short corner, scored their earlier goals.

The Veterans Trophy for players over 50 was retained by Eastcote, who defeated Basingstoke 2-1.

READING: R Hargreaves, J Skay, J Wyatt, C Carroll, A Hodge, M Hargreaves, G Edwards, K Sanders, R Todd, M Pearn, S Ashdown. Subs used: A Jones, S Grieve, J Looze.

## Clifton aim to finish bridge into Europe

CLIFTON avenged their defeat by Ipswich last year in the AEWHA Cup final when Denise Marston-Smith scored two second-half goals to steer them to a 4-2 victory over the holders in the semi-finals yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes). The Bristol club will meet the former winners, Hightown, in the final in a fortnight after they beat their northern rivals Doncaster 2-0.

Tammy Miller, the Clifton captain, who led her team to a third-place finish in the Premiership this season, was quick to look ahead to the final. "We've had a couple of really successful seasons and deserved to win, especially after we made such a good start," she said. "It also shows that losing in last season's final wasn't just a lucky run. Now we want to go all the way and qualify for Europe."

Miller set up Clifton's opening goal after just three min-

utes, when she broke down the right from inside her own half and, after passing to Clifton, Rayden applied the finishing touch to her pass when she deflected the ball into the roof of the net.

Fry converted a fifteenth-minute penalty stroke to equalise, but Marston-Smith put her side ahead from the penalty spot a minute after the break and made it 3-1 in the fifth minute. Miller increased the lead when she cracked in a penalty corner three minutes later before Sandall replied with a consolation goal.

At Doncaster, Hightown had their two former England captains, Linda Carr and Maggie Souyave, to thank after they both scored to help them into their fourth final. Carr converted a second-minute penalty stroke and Souyave sealed the win in the 59th minute after a slick passing movement.

## TENNIS

## Pierce puts end to poor title sequence

MARY PIERCE, of France, swept to victory in the Italian Open in Rome yesterday, when she beat the ailing defending champion, Conchita Martinez, of Spain, 6-4, 6-0. Pierce, who had knocked out Monica Seles, the top seed, earlier in the week, made few mistakes and used her powerful groundstrokes to good effect against an injury-rivaled.

Martinez, who had won the event every year since 1993, needed regular physiotherapy for a muscle problem around the nape of her neck and a shoulder blade.

"I'm disappointed," the Spaniard said. "I had a pain in my neck throughout the match."

Andre Medvedev continued his impressive recovery from the back and shoulder injuries that have hampered his career for two years by winning his third German Open title in Hamburg yesterday. Medvedev, the Ukraine, beat Felix Mantilla 6-0, 6-4, 6-2. Medvedev outclassed Mantilla, of Spain, especially early in the match. "He gave me a lesson," Mantilla, the No 12 seed, said.

Medvedev raced through the first ten games in 41 minutes to lead 4-0 in the second set, cleverly changing pace with drop shots and hitting winners from all over the court. "The way I played at the start is probably as good as I can play. It's great that it happened in the final," Medvedev said.

## JUDO

## Fairbrother's injury mars medal success

BY JOHN GOODBODY

GREAT Britain's medal successes at the European championships in Ostend at the weekend were marred by the news that Nicola Fairbrother will have to undergo a shoulder operation and could miss the world championships in October.

The 1992 Olympic silver medal-winner withdrew from the lightweight category at the European championships yesterday because of the damaged joint, which has been giving her problems for some time.

Although Fairbrother qualified for the repechage yesterday after fighting through the preliminaries on Friday, when she tried exercising the shoulder on Saturday she began to feel pain again.

An operation would put the 1993 world champion out of action for three months and it must be doubtful that she will be able to try to regain her title in Paris at the beginning of October.

Britain collected five medals

over the weekend. On Saturday, the heavyweight, Michelle Rogers, and lightweight, Chloe Cowen, both took silver medals and Kate Howey collected a bronze in the middleweight category.

Rogers, outweighed in the semi-final by more than 40 kilos by the 120-kilo Beate Maksymow, defeated the Pole by a tactical decision. However, in the final, she was twice bowled over by Johanna Hagn for decisive knock-downs.

Cowen, a single mother from Tyne and Wear, battled past Simona Richter, of Romania, to reach the final where she was beaten by Ulla Werbrouck, the defending champion from Belgium.

Yesterday, Britain collected two more bronze medals through featherweight Julian Davies and lightweight Danny Kingston. In the decisive bouts, Davies cleanly threw Gabriel Bengtson of Sweden while Kingston had a clear-cut victory over Guilherme Bents of Portugal.

## EQUESTRIANISM

## Badminton is Custom Made for O'Connor

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

DAVID O'CONNOR, of the United States, who first came to Badminton as groom to Mark Todd in 1980, fulfilled a longstanding ambition when he won the Mitsubishi Motors Trophy yesterday after a showjumping phase which proved almost as dramatic as the storms which accompanied it. O'Connor, 35, a team silver medal-winner in the Olympic Games in Atlanta, is only the second rider from the United States to win the trophy.

Jan Stark, of Britain, the overnight leader after his copybook cross-country round on Stanwick Ghost, saw his hopes of a third Badminton win crash about his ears when the 11-year-old gelding, owned by Lady Harrington, incurred 25 showjumping penalties. Last year, in similar circumstances, Stark had dropped to sixth place. Yesterday, to the dismay of the spectators who had come to applaud his victory, he dropped to thirteenth.

But the British selectors had their consolation. Mary King, within a whisker of maintaining her eight-month unbeaten record, finished runner-up on her Burghley winner, Star Appeal. King had just one mistake, at the penultimate fence, over the 12-fence course.

William Fox-Pitt wiped out the memory of his disappointing Atlanta trip with a superb performance on Frank Andrews' Cosmopolitan to take third place. Fox-Pitt, who was under pressure to prove that the 10-year-old gelding was a true four-star horse, silenced his critics with a foot-perfect cross-country performance and a clear round yesterday.

But the day belonged to O'Connor and Custom Made. One of the most popular — and articulate — riders on the circuit, yesterday's win has confirmed O'Connor's place in the top echelons. His stylish performances over the last four days were in marked contrast to his first visit in 1991 when he failed to complete after being run away with on Wilton Fair. "I realised I needed to go away and relearn my whole approach to the sport," he said yesterday.

Training from the Oxfordshire-based Lars Sederholm — Stark's trainer — paid dividends. The following year he returned to Badminton and was seventh. In 1993, the year he married fellow event rider Karen Lende who finished 55th yesterday, he won the British Open Championships on Lighter than Air.

The arrival of the handsome Irish-bred Custom Made in his yard continued the trend. They won Lexington in Kentucky in 1995 and were third at Badminton last year — a performance which guaranteed them selection for Atlanta

where they were fifth in the individual contest. Yesterday's win left O'Connor almost speechless. "It's a magic feeling — I feel I can't breathe", he said after receiving the magnificent trophy and £25,000 first prize. "When you're a kid this is the one you want, this is the one you dream of winning."

The drama unfolded yesterday even before the start of the showjumping. Andrew Hoy's Darien Powers, lying in fourth place after a copybook cross-country round, was withdrawn, lame, — completing a disappointing weekend for Australia, the Olympic champions. Robert Lemieux, of Canada, lying eighth after his best performance for a decade, also withdrew Just An Ace after he too was "held over" during the final horse inspection.

With riders going in reverse order of merit yesterday the atrocious conditions which beset the first half of the field had subsided by the time the afternoon session, involving the top 20, began. Daisy Dick completed her stylish performance this week on the 14-year-old Headley Bravo with a

## DETAILS

MITSUBISHI MOTORS TROPHY: 1, Custom Made (D O'Connor, US) 48.25pts; 2, Star Appeal (M King, GB) 55.00; 3, Cosmopolitan (W Fox-Pitt, GB) 55.60; 4, Chesterfield (B Tall, NZ) 56.20; 5, Lalayett (L Algotsson, Swe) 57.20; 6, Squama Hill (S Clark, NZ) 61.40; 7, Headley Bravo (D Dick, GB) 62.0; 8, Eagle Lion (B Davidson, US) 64.20; 9, Bits and Pieces (P Funnell, GB) 65.0; 10, Bounce (J Jeffers, NZ) 65.20.

well-judged clear round. Pippa Funnell, whose superb cross-country round on Sarah Jewson's endearing Bits and Pieces confirmed that their fourth place at Burghley was no fluke, incurred five faults at Fence six and dropped from eighth to eleventh place.

Blyth Tait, the New Zealand Olympic champion, lying seventh, put the pressure on the leaders with a stylish clear round on Chesterfield. Fox-Pitt then produced his faultless round. King gave O'Connor a breathing space with her five faults, but O'Connor had no need of any help. Faultless to the end he left Stark with no room for error if the "Flying Scot", as he is known, was to retain his first place.

Even with a reliable showjumper it would have been an unenviable moment for Stark. But he was sitting on a horse who, until this spring — when Sederholm had helped restrain him — had not jumped a clear showjumping round since 1994. The suspense did not last. The first fence fell — and after that it was a matter of Stark trying to limit the damage as pole after pole fell.



David O'Connor guides Custom Made over the third jump en route to a stylish victory at Badminton

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FOOTBALL: MANCHESTER UNITED PROVE EFFICIENT TO THE LAST AS SEASON ENDS IN CELEBRATION

# Champions' title party runs smoothly

Manchester United ..... 2  
West Ham United ..... 0

By MARK HODKINSON

SKILL, endurance, luck and supreme confidence are all vital ingredients for a team to secure the FA Carling Premiership title. Another crucial factor is organisation and Manchester United, typically, excel in this particular field. In short, they now had to organise a party.

Visitors to Old Trafford yesterday were presented with an official timetable of events, neatly typed and laid out like a GCSE examination paper.

Four of the United sides — the reserves, A team, B team and, of course, their first team, have won their respective leagues. So, Eric Cantona received his player-of-the-year award on the centre circle (south side), while the supporters' tribute to Sir Matt Busby took place at the South West Quadrant. It seemed almost incidental that at 4pm a football match started between Manchester United and West Ham United.

Again, the downgrading of the final Premiership matches of the season owed everything to Manchester United's nerveless efficiency. It should have been a frantic showdown, a breathless spat between the football giants from Manchester, Newcastle United and Liverpool. Like the weather yesterday — rain, sun, rain — United's form has been more patchy than expected but they had secured the championship with two games to spare.

Yesterday afternoon the ground was awash with the flags of several European countries to reflect the team's cosmopolitan make-up. The communal singing was eventually interrupted by the kick-off and West Ham, free of the threat of relegation, advertised their mood of relaxation when Kieron lifted the ball out of play direct from the kick-off.

Manchester United immediately fell into their seamless passing game and were rewarded with a fine goal from Scholes. After some patient approach work, he thundered a shot against the underside of the crossbar and Solskjaer headed in the rebound to make sure. The goal, though it lifted the crowd, did little for the game as a contest.

United were happy to retreat deep into their own half while West Ham covered any runs that threatened to move into their territory. The sun broke free from a burriness of clouds and, amid the concise but unadventurous passing, it



Crowning glory: the Manchester United party begins as the team celebrates with the Premiership trophy at Old Trafford yesterday

was clear that minds had already wandered to the final whistle and the inevitable celebration party.

Jordi Cruick was brought on soon after half-time and there were suggestions that the presence of his famous father in the stands had prompted the substitution; it was that kind of moment.

Dowie moved in on goal but fell on to the ball as he tried to shoot. Lomas brought a save from Schmeichel as West Ham added a dash of adventure to the general staidness. Bilic even summoned the energy to set about Beckham after

the midfield player had clipped one heel too many in a well-populated midfield. The referee agreed that Beckham had been unnecessarily reckless and took his name.

An army of burly chaps in blazers and ties took up position at the perimeter fence 15 minutes before the end to deter supporters from running onto the turf. Their brief was to keep a watch on the crowd and not the game — they did not miss a great deal as proceedings became increasingly scrappy at their backs.

Cantona suddenly moved forward and played a wonderful pass to the feet of Cruick. The Dutchman shifted his weight and crashed the ball past Miklosko.

A light aircraft circled overhead bearing the message "MUFC — champions again" and the crowd urged Schmeichel to move forward to join the United attack.

Though the scoreline now flattered United, it was fitting that their championship season should end in suitably relaxed mood. The final cameo of an otherwise predictable afternoon saw Les Sealey, the former Manchester United goalkeeper, replace Miklosko

in the West Ham goal. He milked the applause of the Stretford End and truly ignited the party atmosphere.

The rain poured down, the championship trophy came out, and, once more, Manchester found itself at the epicentre of footballing excellence.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Schmeichel; D. Wetherby, M. Cantona, D. Wetherby, M. Cantona; S. Scholes, S. Scholes, S. Scholes, S. Scholes; S. Scholes, S. Scholes, S. Scholes, S. Scholes.

WEST HAM UNITED (3-5-2): L. Miles; M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles; M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles; M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles.

There are many anonymous, unsung heroes in football every year. The foremost this season is surely Tony Parkes, a temporary manager whose diligence, integrity and modesty have given fresh definition to the term "caretaker".

When he took charge of his club for the third time, succeeding the marooned Ray Harford in October, many doubted whether Blackburn could be rescued and few supposed that Parkes would be the one to go the distance and do so.

When he briefly ran on to the pitch, track-suited, to receive a supporters' award before the kick-off, presented by Walker, the moment touched the emotions of many neutral with affection. For this famous old club, Walker's bold promise of being "regular in Europe" to a newly-cheerful audience was less easy to endorse.

Having spent one fortune to win the championship, Walker probably needs to spare another now to stay afloat.

Blackburn were soon finding it an uphill fight. Early on, a scooped cross from the left by Guppy was headed by Heskey down into the corner of Flowers' net, with the ever-valiant Hendry failing to get in a challenge, undermined by the injury for which he will soon undergo an operation.

A quarter of an hour later, Blackburn were level, with a bit of luck. Gallacher's shot was fumbled by Keller, somebody hacked the loose ball clear and it rebounded into the net off Filcroff's shins.

Either side of half-time, Fenton, Sherwood and Filcroff missed openings that might have put Blackburn beyond reach. Instead, Clatford, with a neat side-step, swept an angled shot beyond Flowers' and, in the next instant, Heskey made it 3-1. Fenton got one back, but Wilson ended the season with a shot that went in off Kenna.

Heskey, having headed down from beyond the far post, next seemed a suspect; defences will increasingly come to fear Leicester's swift and powerful attacker.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T. Flower; J. Kenna, P. Flower, G. Hendry; M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles; M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles, M. Miles.

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M. Taylor; J. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor; S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor.

There was no more than a routine threat as Nelson overlapped from the back and sent in a low cross. There was nobody in a Villa shirt on the end of it, but Dryden still elected to stretch every sinew to cut out the cross and succeeded only in sliding the ball off his foot past Taylor in the Southampton goal.

Disaster — that over-used word of over-esteem, rarely applies to something as gloriously trivial as sport, but to Souness and his cohorts on the Southampton bench it would have been dismissed as entirely too trifling a description for Dryden's error. Heads were hung, gloom abounded; Villa, meanwhile, acclaimed Nelson as if he had just won the lottery. In a funny sort of way, perhaps he had.

It was the sort of wildly prodigious gesture for which Southampton had become notorious. This, remember, is the side that beat Manchester United 6-3 at the end of October then lost 7-1 to Everton less than two weeks later. There is probably not another side in the Premiership capable of such inconsistency — mercury flows powerfully through the veins of the playing personnel at The Dell.

Southampton showed few signs of breaking down the five-man Villa defence but things changed when Le Tissier was brought on for Oostenstad. Le Tissier had been on the field for barely three minutes when his 35-yard free kick ricocheted off the wall and only a swooping save by Bosnich denied him his seventeenth goal of the season.

It was to Southampton's last hurrah. Events at Elland Road and Selhurst Park had kept them up, and Dryden's act of charity had merely underscored Villa's return ticket to Europe. Aims achieved, targets hit: a satisfactory outcome from an unsatisfactory match.

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M. Taylor; J. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor; S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor.

## New-look Newcastle joining Europe's elite

Newcastle United ..... 5  
Nottingham Forest ..... 0

By ANDREW LONGMORE

FOR the second year in succession, Newcastle had the European Cup on their minds in the last game of the season. That they will make it this time through the tradesman's entrance will matter not a jot to their accountants, who were buoyed by the £4 million renewal of their sponsorship deal with Newcastle Breweries before kick-off and can now anticipate the takings from a preliminary knockout round of Europe's most prized tournament early in August. Victory then and the big money of the Champions' League beckons. No wonder there was much dancing by the grey-suited brigade as news of

Liverpool's draw at Hillsborough filtered through. Not too much should be read into this facile victory over relegated Nottingham Forest. Three goals in six minutes midway through the first half settled the matter, though one would have done so downcast were the visitors. Dalglish, ever the pragmatist, would have been as happy with four clean sheets to end the season.

It was a day of farewells. Nottingham Forest will be purchasing their gazetteers, David Ginola, not granted the sentimental gift of a place on the bench, will be driving his Renault south over the Tyne Bridge. His transfer request has been granted and his departure is the starkest reflection of the changing style on Tyneside.

Quite what the future holds for Asprilla remains to be seen. Dalglish

is reputedly captivated by the silky skills of the Colombian, but he has spent £2.5 million on Jon Dahl Tomasson, the leading scorer in the Dutch league. His dichotomy was aptly summed up in the opening half an hour. No sooner had Dalglish turned in disgust as Asprilla dallied terribly over a shooting chance than he was putting his hands together to acknowledge the first of three quickfire goals.

Asprilla scored the first, skipping through the heart of the Forest defence, such as it was, to clip a left-foot shot over Fenit and set up the second for Ferdinand two minutes later with a pass of stunning vision. Admittedly, Forest contributed soundly to their own downfall. It was Stuart Pearce's idea to counter a three-man attack of Ferdinand, Shearer and Asprilla with a three-

man defence then his return to the rank of private will come as a relief. Without Van Hooijdonk, Saunders, Pearce himself, Crossley and Roy, Forest were clearly planning for the future. It looks a little bleak. For the first ten minutes, they played quite brightly, forcing Srinke into saves at the foot of either post, but once Newcastle had realised that the direct route was the most effective, Forest's fate was sealed.

The third goal came after Barton, breaking forward from deep in his own half, played a swift one-two with Watson and released Ferdinand to drive home a cross-shot. Had Phillips not stuck out a foot to block a Shearer shot, the damage would have been more severe.

Shearer was not denied for long, though there was a touch of good fortune about Newcastle's fourth

goal, in the 37th minute. Elliott's long shot was partially blocked, but bounced up invitingly at the far post where Shearer's shaven head planted it firmly into the net. Newcastle amused themselves after that, bringing on Beardsley for what might prove to be a last runaround. Elliott added a fifth, 15 minutes from time.

Barcelona or Milan for Newcastle perhaps; Bury for Forest. The crowd gloated over the demise of Middlesbrough and Sunderland. A rousing chorus of "We'll meet again" would have been a more appropriate send-off for Forest.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-3-1-2): P. Srinke; S. Watson, P. Asprilla, P. Asprilla, P. Asprilla; S. Watson, J. Asprilla, J. Asprilla, J. Asprilla; J. Asprilla, J. Asprilla, J. Asprilla, J. Asprilla.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (3-5-2): A. Fenit; C. Cooper, D. Fenit, S. Fenit, S. Fenit, S. Fenit; S. Fenit, S. Fenit, S. Fenit, S. Fenit.

DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2): M. Poon; P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon; P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon.

much for Mackay to savour, though the closing emotion was one of frustration.

In the first half, after the dismissal of Adams, Derby created chances in abundance, but their finishing lacked the precision of some adventurous approach work. Ward gave them the lead in the seventh minute after his initial header rebounded off the post. Later, he hit the upright again and produced a fine save from Seaman three minutes into the second half when he connected with a Chris Powell cross.

In changing times, just three things can be said with any certainty of Arsenal. They have more heart than most, in Seaman they have a formidable goalkeeper and Wright retains an insatiable spirit at

the other end. Wright's equaliser in the 54th minute testified to speed of both thought and footwork. A substitute, cut inside from the left to unleash a firm drive that Poom could only parry. As defenders turned, there was Wright already poised to drive home from six yards.

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DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2): M. Poon; P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon; P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon, P. Poon.

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M. Taylor; J. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor; S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor.

There was no more than a routine threat as Nelson overlapped from the back and sent in a low cross. There was nobody in a Villa shirt on the end of it, but Dryden still elected to stretch every sinew to cut out the cross and succeeded only in sliding the ball off his foot past Taylor in the Southampton goal.

Disaster — that over-used word of over-esteem, rarely applies to something as gloriously trivial as sport, but to Souness and his cohorts on the Southampton bench it would have been dismissed as entirely too trifling a description for Dryden's error. Heads were hung, gloom abounded; Villa, meanwhile, acclaimed Nelson as if he had just won the lottery. In a funny sort of way, perhaps he had.

It was the sort of wildly prodigious gesture for which Southampton had become notorious. This, remember, is the side that beat Manchester United 6-3 at the end of October then lost 7-1 to Everton less than two weeks later. There is probably not another side in the Premiership capable of such inconsistency — mercury flows powerfully through the veins of the playing personnel at The Dell.

Southampton showed few signs of breaking down the five-man Villa defence but things changed when Le Tissier was brought on for Oostenstad. Le Tissier had been on the field for barely three minutes when his 35-yard free kick ricocheted off the wall and only a swooping save by Bosnich denied him his seventeenth goal of the season.

It was to Southampton's last hurrah. Events at Elland Road and Selhurst Park had kept them up, and Dryden's act of charity had merely underscored Villa's return ticket to Europe. Aims achieved, targets hit: a satisfactory outcome from an unsatisfactory match.

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M. Taylor; J. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor; S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Taylor.

## Bergkamp adds last memory as Derby say their farewells

Derby County ..... 1  
Arsenal ..... 3

By RICHARD HOBSON

WHAT was to become a familiar tale unfolded 102 years ago when Steve Bloomer scored the winning goals on Derby County's first appearance at the Baseball Ground. Yesterday, on their last, they were indebted to a bloomer from a less likely source, but ultimately succumbed to two of the most effective strikers in the FA Carling Premiership.

On a day of last hurrahs, no departure ought to have carried more significance to the contest than that of Tony Adams just 11 minutes into proceedings. Two minutes earlier, the England defender had been booked for clattering into Asanovic. Never one to nip on eggshells, he lunged just as clumsily into Daryl Powell on the opposite flank and saw yellow for a second time.

The crowd roared, just as they had through an emotional pre-match build-up. Alan Hinton, his hair now as snowy-white as the shirts he once adorned, flew in from the United States to lead a parade of former players. Charlie George seemed unsure which set of supporters to applaud. His goals against in the 1976 European Cup campaign are recalled as fondly in these parts as his winning strike for Arsenal in the FA Cup Final five years earlier is around Finsbury Park.

Brian Clough sent his apologies, citing flu as an explanation for his non-attendance, but Dave Mackay, who led Derby to promotion as a player and the championship as a manager, was present as guest of honour. There was

much for Mackay to savour, though the closing emotion was one of frustration.

In the first half, after the dismissal of Adams, Derby created chances in abundance, but their finishing lacked the precision of some adventurous approach work. Ward gave them the lead in the seventh minute after his initial header rebounded off the post. Later, he hit the upright again and produced a fine save from Seaman three minutes into the second half when he connected with a Chris Powell cross.

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## FOOTBALL: COVENTRY'S LAST-GASP HEROICS HELP TO RELEGATE NORTH EAST RIVALS AFTER DRAMATIC PREMIERSHIP DENOUEMENT

## City savour sequel to the great escape

Tottenham Hotspur ..... 1  
Coventry City ..... 2

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

COVENTRY City, the great escapologists of the FA Carling Premiership, did it again yesterday. For the ninth time during their 30-year unbroken run in the top flight of English football, they retained their status in the final match of the season. They needed to beat Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane and for results elsewhere to go their way. Win they did, and the other scorelines favoured them, too.

As Martin Bodenham, the referee, blew the final whistle, Gordon Strachan, the Coventry player-manager, first checked that his team was safe and then set off towards the fans, his legs waving over his head. He bowed, he applauded, he jumped with glee. Were it not so heart-warming, it would have been comical.

"I had to check first that we were all right before I went running out on to the pitch and making a fool of myself," Strachan said. "We were so brave out there, mentally and physically, and I am just delighted for everyone involved with the club, past and present. When something like this happens, you think more of other people than yourself."

Stoked up to near fever pitch, Coventry had come out fighting from the off. The bruising tone was set as early as the second minute, when Carr was felled from behind by an excruciating late tackle from Burrows. Bodenham set his standards, too, by booking him.

Five others joined him in the opening 25 minutes, after a series of petty squabbles, wild challenges and confrontations. Richardson, Williams and Whelan were also cautioned as Coventry's burning desire threatened to spill over into warfare.

Amid the thunder, though, Coventry were still able to display the fine technique and more considered skills under pressure. Huckerby was everywhere, disorientating the Tottenham defence with his teasing and taunting. Such bold endeavours were rewarded in the twelfth minute. Whelan delivered the ball invitingly into the area and Dublin glanced the most delicate of headers past Baard-

sen. Dublin, variously used by Strachan as a striker and

central defender, celebrated his thirteenth goal of the season with almost manic gusto.

Once the niggling had subsided, Coventry concentrated on the job. In the 38th minute, with the home defence again absent, they increased their lead. McAllister chipped over a corner from the right and Williams volleyed past Baardsen via a post. Five minutes later, though, Tottenham dredged up a response. Sheringham's 30-yard free kick beat the outstretched right hand of Ogrizovic, thudded against an upright and sat up for McVeigh to nod in at close range.

As news filtered in from around the country—the kick-off had been delayed by 15 minutes because of traffic congestion—Coventry began to realise their position. If they stayed ahead, they stayed up. Deane's goal for Leeds United enhanced that feeling as did Euell's effort for Wimbledon against Sunderland. The supporters in sky blue, tuned in to their radios, cheered every snippet of information.

With 15 minutes left and Coventry showing signs of wilting, the commotion became clear. Sunderland and Middlesbrough were gone, consigned to the Premiership dustbin. If Coventry retained their lead, if not, Sunderland would be handed a last-minute reprieve. It was an awful 15 minutes. Burrows' petulance might have faded, but Huckerby's legs had gone and Strachan's voice had almost gone, too. Only the positioning and agility of Ogrizovic kept Coventry afloat as the seconds ticked by, slowly, agonisingly.

Twice Ogrizovic saved defiantly, magnificently, as Fenn drove in a shot from only a few yards out and then Dozell powered in a header from Fox's corner. Then it was over, Bodenham's concluding whistle ending the torment.

"I am desperate for a cup of tea and I just want to sit down," Strachan said, his composure having returned. Coventry had survived, again, at the death—as if it could have been any other way.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-2-2): E Baardsen — R Vega, J Soares, S Campbell, S Carr, R Fox, J Dozell, A Barton (sub: J Chapman, 20th), J Edmondson — E Sheringham, P McVeigh (sub: N Fenn, 75th).  
COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — P Teller, R Shaw, P Williams, D Gifford, N Whelan (sub: E Jones, 29th), K Richardson, J McAllister, P Ndlovu — D Huckerby, D Dublin.  
Referee: M Bodenham.



Strachan, the player-manager, shows the strain as Coventry fight for survival at White Hart Lane yesterday

## FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: FROM TITLE TO TRAPDOOR

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
1	MANCHESTER UNITED	38	21	12	5	76	44	75	Qualified for European Cup
2	NEWCASTLE UNITED	38	19	11	8	73	40	68	European Cup
3	ARSENAL	38	19	11	8	62	32	68	Uefa Cup
4	LIVERPOOL	38	19	11	8	62	37	68	Uefa Cup
5	ASTON VILLA	38	17	10	11	47	34	61	Uefa Cup
6	CHELSEA	38	16	11	11	58	55	59	Cup Winners' Cup*
7	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY	38	14	15	9	50	51	57	
8	WIMBLEDON	38	15	11	12	49	48	56	
9	LEICESTER	38	12	11	15	46	54	47	
10	TOTTENHAM	38	13	7	18	44	51	46	
11	LEEDS UNITED	38	11	13	14	28	38	46	
12	DERBY COUNTY	38	11	13	14	45	58	46	
13	BLACKBURN	38	9	15	14	42	43	42	
14	WEST HAM	38	10	12	16	39	48	42	
15	EVERTON	38	10	12	16	44	57	42	
16	SOUTHAMPTON	38	10	11	17	50	56	41	
17	COVENTRY	38	9	14	15	38	54	41	
18	SUNDERLAND	38	10	10	18	35	53	40	
19	MIDDLESBROUGH	38	10	12	16	51	60	39	
20	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	38	6	16	16	31	59	34	

(Middlesbrough deducted 3 points)

\*If winners of FA Cup

## Redknapp's strike fails to lift gloom

Sheffield Wednesday ..... 1  
Liverpool ..... 1

By DAVID MADDOCK

IT WAS the final ignominy for Liverpool in a match that perfectly encapsulated their desperate season. Needing victory to secure second position in the FA Carling Premiership, and a place in the European Cup, they somehow contrived an almost surreal draw to finish fourth.

Like everything else they have done this season, the draw against Sheffield Wednesday was achieved under dramatic and ultimately disappointing circumstances. Trailing with only seven minutes remaining to a goal from the Wednesday substitute, O'Neill Donaldson, Liverpool were then handed one final chance in a season littered with missed opportunity.

Matt Clarke, the Wednesday goalkeeper, had only been on the pitch for ten minutes after replacing the injured Kevin Pressman, when the fates conspired to make his debut at least a memorable one. Almost his first act was to collect a through-ball from McManaman, but in doing so he overran his penalty area.

Most referees would deem such an error accidental and merely award the free kick. But not the fastidious David Elleray. He decided to dismiss Clarke and set up what was a quite remarkable final seven minutes. With Pressman already injured, Andy Booth, the Wednesday forward, went in goal.

His first task was to pick the resulting free kick out of the net, placed there by Jamie Redknapp who had hit home a quite beautiful strike in a delicious arc from the 18-yard line.

As Wednesday kicked off there were still six minutes remaining, and a betting man would have placed his life's savings on Liverpool finding the goal that would have at least offered some small consolation for a season

that promised so much and delivered ultimately nothing. But Liverpool are perhaps the most frustrating side to watch in the Premiership and failed yet again when it seemed impossible.

They had chances, at least three in the final breathless minutes, but missed them all because of an insistence on being too clever and too premeditated when the situation, against ten men and with a dodgy goalkeeper, demanded a direct, blunt approach.

It was a typical Liverpool performance. They had appeared lost in a poor first half when pursuing the direct tactics that Roy Evans, the manager, has favoured in recent weeks. But at half-time he switched back to the more familiar passing methods, and in doing so removed Collymore. It was, perhaps, the definitive comment on his time at Anfield because he will surely be transferred in the summer.

Barnes, his replacement, made an immediate difference and had the 17-year-old Michael Owen accepted one of three straightforward chances. Liverpool would have had their place in the European Cup. Instead they floundered in front of goal, and Wednesday broke swiftly to again expose uncertain defending from the visitors and snatch an opening goal. It came after 75 minutes when Wright lost control on the edge of his own penalty area to allow Donaldson to steal in and smash a shot from close range past the unprotected James.

The goal was not enough to give Wednesday a Uefa Cup place given results elsewhere, but it was enough results elsewhere, but it was enough to consign Liverpool to a season of frustration and embarrassment and one that will surely ring the changes at Anfield during the summer.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-0-1-2): K Pressman — M Goss, J Taylor, D Walker, D Butler, R Humphreys (sub: O Donaldson, 80th), C Whitham, P Ashton, M Pennington — B Johnson, A Booth, D Ward (sub: S Collymore, 60th).  
LIVERPOOL (4-3-1-2): D Jones — B T Keanne (sub: D Watson, 40th), M Wright, N Rodwell (sub: S Harrison, 15th), S Birmey, J McManaman, J Redknapp, J Thorne — S McManaman, J Collymore (sub: J Barnes, 40th), M Owen.  
Referee: D Elleray.

## Liverpool left to look back on season full of empty promise

STEVE  
McMANAMAN

is haunted by a feeling of déjà vu

Another season draws to a close and, as painful as it is to reflect, the fact is that Liverpool have again failed to fulfil our promise.

What really hurts is that we are here again after another huge disappointment saying that we must do this and that to make the final step to win something. I can remember, I think, that after the Cup Final last season we said much the same thing.

We have finished fourth in the league and managed to get to the semi-finals of the European Cup Winners' Cup and still it hasn't been a good season at all. In fact, when you consider the opportunity we had, it has been an awful one. The league was there to be taken. I don't subscribe to this theory that Manchester United were hopelessly distracted by the European Cup because Juventus beat their league and are in the final of the cup. But I do think United were below the standards they have set in recent seasons.

They were not that good this season. And yet they have won the league comfortably and even drew three of their last few games. That was how easy it was for them and that is why there is such a huge sense of frustration at Anfield.

We know the league was winnable and we know that we lost it. There are no excuses, we were not beaten by great sides, we cannot hold our hands up and say there were teams too good for us. The fact is, we lost the important games because we played badly.

The irony, in the league, is that Liverpool performed well away from home this season. Our record was quite impressive. But we dropped what you would normally consider to be the banker points at home. Liverpool are usually excellent at ensuring those points, traditionally we are very strong in those games. The frustrating fact is, had we collected those banker points as we should have done, we would be

champions now. It was the same in the cup competitions.

In Europe we weren't hammered by a much better side, we played badly and paid the penalty in the first leg of the semi-final in France when it was clear in the second leg that we should have had the beating of Paris Saint-Germain.

The domestic competitions were the same. We let ourselves down and that is something we cannot hide from. Our fans demand success and next season we have to deliver it. There will be some changes to this Liverpool side in order to achieve that. We had our opportunity and didn't take it and there could well be three or four new faces brought in next season to ensure that it doesn't happen again.

While I bemoan Liverpool's failings, I don't support the widely held assertion that it is evidence of a drop in quality in the FA Carling Premiership. OK, Manchester United won the title with seven fewer points than last season, but I believe that is because there is a general increase in quality.

The teams at the bottom have benefited from the money generated within football and they have used the revenue to bring in better quality players. Look at Coventry City, West Ham United and Southampton. They have spent a lot of money to improve their squads.

While the sides at the bottom are undoubtedly better, it is harder for the teams at the top to improve by an equal amount, because while they have money available, their squads cannot be bettered so readily. When you already have the top players it is harder to find new ones who will increase standards — especially when all the top sides in Europe are competing for those players. You therefore get a natural narrowing of standards between top and bottom.

But I think the experience of Liverpool and Manchester United in Europe suggests that the top teams are still improving. We should have beaten Paris to reach the final and Manchester United were very unlucky indeed not to reach the final of the European Cup. England could — and should — have had two European finalists and that is surely a sign of high quality.

While all that is a defence of English football, I do have one major concern about our game. The influx of foreign players has reached such epidemic proportions that I can hardly think of an English player bought by a Premiership club during the entire season.

There are around 300 foreigners playing in Britain now and, during the summer, I can only see that figure increasing significantly. Where nobody can argue with the purchase of players such as Zola and Juninho, it is worrying that we are also importing so many journeymen.

If English football is to keep improving, then we must import only the best — and keep producing players of the highest quality of our own.

## Sunderland go down in the shallow end

Wimbledon ..... 1  
Sunderland ..... 0

By BRIAN GLANVILLE

SUNDERLAND go down. Any vestigial hope they had disappeared after 87 minutes when Dean Holdsworth beat Richard Ord on the left, drew another man, then slipped the ball across for young Jason Euell to drive his shot past Perez. Thus Euell atoned for having missed an easy chance minutes earlier, when he was set up by Ardley and Leonhardson, only to pull his shot carelessly wide.

One had to feel sympathy for the thousands of Sunderland fans who had made the long trip to Selhurst Park from the North East. Clad mostly in the famous red and white stripes which their team, for some perverse reason, were not wearing in this game, they were still singing and cheering at the bitter end.

Truth to tell, Sunderland scarcely did enough to deserve anything more than a draw, which itself would not have guaranteed survival. They are a dull, functional team, with little but their grand tradition to recommend them. Next season, part of that will go when they move from their historic home of Roker Park.

Sunderland, you may remember, were the last of the original first division clubs to be relegated. But that was a long time ago, and since then, they have largely been struggling in the shallows.

Not that Wimbledon, on this occasion, looked much better. You might to some extent excuse the general mediocrity on the grounds of a bumpy pitch and a brisk wind. These factors may have had something to do with the goal-scoring opportunity the veteran Chris Waddle culpably missed early in the second half; thus missing the chance of enabling the team he once supported to stay in the top division.

When Niall Quinn touched the ball to Waddle, it came to his favoured left foot, but he snatched at the chance and, sadly, miskicked.

Overall, Sunderland made very few clear chances. After 80 minutes, when Craig Russell crossed accurately from the left, Paul Stewart, with the goal in his sights, headed over the bar, as Fear had done shortly beforehand at the other end.

Neither team ever truly struck a rhythm and not even Oyvind Leonhardson, the Norwegian midfielder player, presumably playing his last game for Wimbledon, could impose himself on the play. It is reported that Leonhardson

will shortly be leaving Wimbledon at a £4.5 million fee. However, Wimbledon can console themselves that they will still have Robbie Earle, who missed this match through injury.

Not only was there little movement or invention to enjoy; there was very little dramatic incident, either. Holdsworth, after 35 minutes, presaged Wimbledon's eventual goal when he put over a short cross from the left, but Ord, on that occasion, turned the ball behind.

Should Wimbledon have had a penalty, close to half-time? Leonhardson wriggled round Darren Williams, who then appeared to fall on top of him, knocking him down. Dermot Gallagher, the referee, saw nothing wrong in this and Leonhardson, to his credit, sprang up again to put in a dangerous cross.

No doubt next season, Wimbledon will again be substantially more than the sum of their parts. They had probably given a little too much in



Waddle: crucial miss

midweek against Liverpool, when they lapsed in the final furlong. They did not run out of steam yesterday. Nor, to their credit, did Sunderland, who did their best, with their severely limited talent and resources, at least to save a game which might in turn have been their own salvation.

The game was given a frivolous beginning when a blonde young streaker ran on to the ground and performed a series of cartwheels, much to the joy of the 21,000 crowd. Perhaps after that, anti-climax was inevitable, and anti-climax was what we got.

With all deference to Wimbledon's achievements and Sunderland's sorrow, mediocrity in this Premiership has largely been the name of the game.

WIMBLEDON (4-4-2): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, C Perry, B McAlister, A Karmali, C N Ardley, V Jones (sub: P Fear, 40th), O Leonhardson, M Cooke (sub: E Ewku, 71th), J Euell, D Holdsworth.  
SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): L Perez — J Hui, R "C" L. Hewer, M Goss, P Stewart, C Russell, 70th, B Ball, D Williams, C Waddle (sub: A Johnson, 70th), P Stewart, N Quinn (sub: M Bridges, 51th).  
Referee: D Gallagher.

## Chelsea ignore loss of Grodas

Everton ..... 1  
Chelsea ..... 2

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

DESPITE a late flurry after a Nick Barnby goal, Everton went down to a superb passing display by a Chelsea team who were a man short for most of the match after the dismissal of Frode Grodas, their goalkeeper. "It was an excellent performance," Rudd Gullitt, the Chelsea manager, said. "We created so many chances."

There was, however, a distinct end-of-term feeling at the former School of Science. There were absences: Unsworth, Short, Phelan, Hincliffe, a whole defence. There were departures to think about, too — Dave Watson was relinquishing the role of player-manager and even Goodison Park itself could be on the way out in favour of a new 60,000-seat stadium, according to a document going the rounds. There were possible new arrivals too — such as Bobby Robson and Jürgen Klinsmann, who might or might not be joining Everton after the Summer holidays.

Probably not, if anyone sends them a tape of the first hour or so of this game. Chelsea were ahead after only 15 minutes, when Wise's chip from the left drifted over the head of Southall and dropped inside the post. Six minutes later, Ferguson, although looking offside, was allowed to gallop menacingly through only to be brought down by Grodas a yard outside the Chelsea area. Grodas was sent off by Peter Jones, the referee, which in turn meant the

departure of Vialli in favour of the substitute keeper, Hitchcock.

Chelsea, however, made light of the disadvantage. Everton pressed, but Chelsea's fast breaks, accurate passing and movement off the ball made the home team look as if they, not the visitors, were outnumbered. It was well deserved when Di Matteo put Chelsea further ahead with a rare header from a cross by Petrescu.

The second half was in danger of turning into a passing exhibition by the FA Cup finalists, their fans taunting Everton with shouts of "Can we play you any week?" The pre-Wembley stroll only looked likely to be disturbed by a lack of concentration or injury. Hughes was withdrawn as a precaution after a knock on the ankle and Di Matteo's dying swan impersonation raised momentary concern, but he soldiered bravely on, only to miss a superb chance after Petrescu's pass put him through on goal.

It was nearly a costly failure. Within 30 seconds, Barnby scored after Hitchcock had parried Watson's header. The Chelsea defence rocked thereafter whenever the ball was in the air, Hitchcock continually punching uncertainly, but Everton could not find an equaliser; a turn and low shot passed the post by Cada Marteri, a substitute, was as close as they came.

EVERTON (3-1-4-2): H Southall — R Durno, D Watson, M Bax — E Barnett, M Horridge, C Thomson (sub: D Cada Marteri, 40th), G Speed, J Hills — D Ferguson, N Barnby.  
CHELSEA (4-4-2): F Grodas — F Sinclair, F Laboul, S Clarke, S Milne — D Petrescu, E Newton, P Di Matteo (sub: P Barry, 60th), D Wise — M Hughes (sub: M Nicolais, 60th), G Vialli (sub: K Hitchcock, 21th).  
Referee: P Jones.



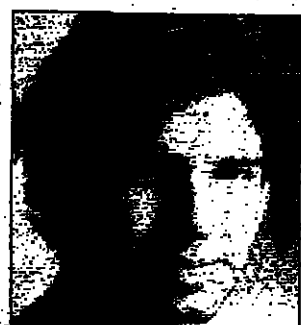




## Barcelona coach faces uncertain future despite momentous victory

## Robson's pride may not prevent his fall

OLIVER HOLT



Football Correspondent

The well-heeled supporters in their sharp suits clapped him when he walked in to the hotel bar. The women stared through the whorls of cigar smoke, a waiter brought him an orange juice and, at the bar, two or three more started chanting his name.

Lean and hungry men, the type who have called for his head and waved their white handkerchiefs as a sign of disrespect, fawned over Bobby Robson and asked to have their pictures taken with him. He indulged them, then made his way to where his son, Mark, was sitting quietly with a group of friends from England.

The city could have been Bobby Robson's on Saturday night. His Barcelona team had just beaten Real Madrid in a match that is almost as important to their fanatical supporters as the championship itself. Yet Robson seemed curiously deflated. Sunken-eyed and robbed suddenly of the adrenalin that had so invigorated him in the build-up to victory, he chatted for 15 minutes or so. When midnight had gone, he pressed some hands into his and left.

He said that he was elated, that there was euphoria welling up within him, that he was proud of what his players had achieved when they struck such a great blow for Barcelona's pride with the 1-0 win in front of 115,000 in the Nou Camp, a victory that cut Real's lead to a more respectable five points. Outwardly, though, he seemed subdued by a deep melancholy that went beyond the normal reaction to 90 minutes of living on his nerves in one of the most high-pressure matches of his career. The devil-may-care attitude that he had adopted had been replaced with a great weariness.

Part of it was relief. He knew how much ridicule, how much bile, would have been heaped upon him if



Robson makes his point at the Nou Camp, where supporters acclaimed a 1-0 win over Real Madrid

Real had managed to beat Barcelona in the Nou Camp for the first time in 14 years. "If we had lost here today," he said, "they would have been sticking knives in me now."

The rest of it, though, was a mixture of exhaustion at the treatment he has had from the club president, Josep Lluís Núñez — treatment that Robson is too honourable to call dishonourable — and a creeping realisation of the terrible beauty of a club that he may be forced to leave.

Barcelona has been like a siren's song for Robson, a job of almost mystical allure. Despite all his success this season — the fact that he has taken Barcelona to the Cup

Winners' Cup final in Rotterdam and the Spanish Cup final, and that the Catalan club has beaten Real in two of the four league and cup games they have played this season and lost only once — the strong suspicion is still that he will be replaced when the season ends next month.

Persistent rumours and muttered half-admissions from club officials say that Louis van Gaal, the outgoing Ajax coach, will join the club soon, but when Robson asks Núñez for clarification of his position, whether the second year of his two-year contract will be honoured, he is lobbied off with glib assurances.

After the game on Saturday night,

a female Dutch journalist tried to grill him about his future, about his relationship with Núñez and whether he had grown exasperated. "I think she must have been Louis van Gaal's brother," Robson said when she finally took her leave.

This is a wonderful club, a fantastic club, but football is a strange game and this is a strange club. They are talking about a new management structure here, they have that in their head. They should discuss it with me and I will tell them about structure.

"I do not fight Núñez. I do not have dinner with him. I do not go on holiday with him. I just spoke to him for five minutes after the game and

he is very happy, as we all are. We are all proud of the players and the effort they put in tonight."

Robson's position, which at any rational club would not just be safe but under lock and key, may become clearer, and probably bleaker, after the match in Rotterdam on Wednesday, when Núñez may dispense with pretence. Victory over Paris Saint-Germain, though, would make it harder for Núñez to be disloyal to the man who stayed loyal to him in the face of a fairy-tale offer from Newcastle United, Everton and their chairman, Peter Johnson, are waiting anxiously in the wings, a haven in the storm, but, despite everything, anything else pales besides Barcelona for Robson. After Saturday night, the pride, the passion, the sound, the fury, it was easy to see why.

It was theatre, raw and unrehearsed, full of hate and vitriol and the worst kind of racism towards Roberto Carlos, the Real left back. Real took the field first, to a howling, willing cacophony of boos and had the temerity to run to the centre circle and wave to the crowd. When Barcelona appeared, a sea of red-and-blue flags, for Catalonia, were raised. The roars increased when first Giovanni, then Nadal, were carried from the pitch after fierce tackles by Roberto Carlos. The fans showed their displeasure by ripping the poles from their flags and hurling them on to the pitch.

The match was not a classic. It was too important for that. But in the speed and power of the world's best footballer, Ronaldo, the running and quick-thinking of Figo on the left flank and, above all, the artistry and exuberance of Deco in midfield, there were glimpses of the stimulation that Robson gets from coaching this team, the excitement it might be hard to reproduce at somewhere such as Everton.

The only goal came in injury time at the end of the first half, when Figo was brought down by Roberto Carlos. Ronaldo, valued now at £30 million, was still dazed from a clash of heads, but insisted on taking the penalty. He hit it lamely — "like my wife would kick it", Robson said — but when Illgner pushed it out, Figo reacted quickest and turned it back to Ronaldo, who sidefooted it in.

Robson, though, had his mind on the days and weeks ahead and the manoeuvrings of Núñez. "When they do something I do not agree with," he said, "I will decide what to do with my life. If it is in the imminent future, I will probably take another job." Everton, Celtic and anyone else contemplating an advertisement in the situations vacant columns should take note.

## Hibernian left to continue survival fight

KEVIN MCCARRA



Scottish commentary

THE season has brought Hibernian 13 new players, three managers and a shortage of points. Having finished ninth, their status as members of the Bell's Scottish League premier division, which has lasted for 16 years, will be at risk in a two-legged play-off against Airdrieonians, the runners-up in the first division.

Most footballers would prefer a spot of crocodile wrestling to facing Airdrie in a knockout event. Alex MacDonald's team may not sink their teeth into opponents, but there is always a biting competitiveness about them, as appearances in the Scottish Cup finals of 1992 and 1995 demonstrate.

Hibernian have a particularly poor record against Airdrie. Supporters, though, will hardly be poring over those statistics, not while their emotions remain engulfed by the anticlimax of Saturday.

At Stark's Park, Hibernian equalised in the 26th minute and proceeded to a tame 1-1 draw against Raith Rovers. It seemed, for a time, that an unheroic escape had been contrived. Motherwell and Kilmarnock were behind in their home matches and, if either had lost, Hibernian would have been safe, but both eventually took a point, ensuring that the Edinburgh club finished behind Motherwell on goal difference.

The only public disagreement among Hibernian staff then saw individuals vying for the lion's share of the blame. The spectacle of men jostling one another in the attempt to face facts did, at least, speak well of the candour at Easter Road. Darren Jackson, the Scotland forward, was insistent that it was all the fault of the players. Jim Duffy, the Hibernian manager, felt that the greatest responsibility lay with him.

Since his appointment at the end of last year, just three league games have been won. Duffy further implicated himself by pointing out that he has made half a dozen signings. The newcomers have extended the squad without deepening its quality. Only one of the six, Shaun Dennis, was bought from a premier division club — Raith — and even they are now relegated.

Chic Charney, Jamie McQuilken, David Elliot, Lee Power and Paul Tosh all arrived from the first division. Hibernian will spend the next few days reminding themselves that they have better players than Airdrie and thus should remove the most pressing worries by simply beating them. In the longer term, though, Hibernian must demonstrate that they have some notion of how the club might be regenerated.

The owner, Tom Farmer, rescued Hibernian from bankruptcy in 1991, but agrees that he has no interest in football. He does not exercise power in day-to-day affairs, and since no one else possesses his authority, there is always a risk of a leadership vacuum. Supporters are understandably engrossed by rumours of a takeover.

They may also cast covetous glances at the other side of Edinburgh. Heart of Midlothian's financial wounds seem to be healing, with £5 million raised through a share issue, and they are established among the stronger clubs. Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, observed wryly that his counterpart at Tynecastle, Jim Jefferies, is the only premier division manager not to have heard calls for his sacking this year.

Defeat on Saturday for Rangers, the champions, hardly mattered, and the Scottish football writers' player of the year, Brian Laudrup, did not even take part, but Hearts' 3-1 victory was momentous for John Robertson. By scoring twice, he took his tally of league goals to 208, creating a club record as he moved clear of the figure of 206, set by Jimmy Wardhaugh. Hibernian are left to hope that they do not make their own little piece of history in 1997, by dropping out of the top flight.

## Freedman stars at the Palace

Crystal Palace ..... 3  
Wolverhampton W ..... 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

DOUGIE FREEDMAN: The Story. Were it translated on to the silver screen this week, it might well vie for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival. The script may lack the usual prerequisite ingredients of sex, drugs and rock'n'roll but it is irresistible nonetheless. It is a tale of angst, pent-up emotion and shame; drama, sudden vindication yet ultimate let-down.

Scene one: Freedman falls out of favour with Steve Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager, and is sentenced to

the substitutes' bench seven times in nine matches. He keeps quiet, hides his time and vows to do better.

Scene two: He is recalled to the side, for the home game against Port Vale on May 4, but is sent off midway through the second half, for the first time in his career, for landing a right hook on Gareth Griffiths, the Vale defender.

Scene three: He is back on the bench at Selhurst Park on Saturday, for the first leg of the Nationwide League first division play-off semi-final against Wolverhampton Wanderers, but is brought on with 17 minutes remaining and scores two goals.

Scene four: Freedman signs autographs for his fans, in the

Selhurst Park car park, and reflects on his altercation with Griffiths. If Palace go on to reach the play-off final, having successfully negotiated the return leg against Wolves at Molineux on Wednesday, he will not play at Wembley because of suspension.

"It was a silly thing to do, it was very out of character for me," he said. "I'd been sitting on the bench for about six weeks and perhaps all the frustration had built up inside me. I might have to pay a very heavy price, if we go on to reach Wembley, but I'll still be there, sitting and cheering the lads on."

Freedman's goals, taking his tally to 14 for the season, were delightfully taken. Palace already led 1-0, courtesy of a firm, downward header from Shipperley, when he lashed in a dipping, left-footed volley past the stranded Stowell.

Though Smith immediately reduced the gap, with his first goal for Wolves, Freedman responded with another gem — a delicate, right-footed lob as Smith and his team-mates appealed in vain for an offside decision.

That the last three goals were compressed into the final three minutes, producing a thunderous climax, created a false impression after an essentially dull, tactically uninspiring and often ragged encounter. If either club genuinely possesses FA Carling Premiership credentials, they were mysteriously withholding them from public view.

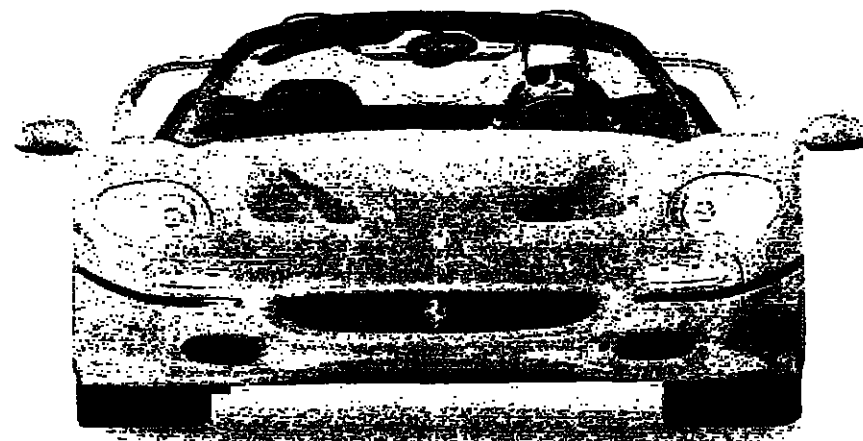
Molineux should witness better, when Wolves, the perennial underachievers, bear down on their prey and whip the partisan Black Country hordes into a frenzy. It will be a night for stout hearts in the Palace defence, when the will to survive will transcend all other qualities.

"We know we can get the two goals back," Keith Curle, the Wolves defender, said. "We'll stoke up the atmosphere. Let's get it on."

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): C Nash — M Edwards, A Roberts, A Longman, D Gordon — G Davies, D Hopkins, R Houghton (sub: C Vear, 62min), S Rodger — B Dyer (sub: D Macdonald, 75), M Sheehy.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (3-5-2): M Stowell — A Williams, M Allen, K Curle — J Smith, S O'Brien, D Ferguson, G Thomas, A Thompson — S Bull (sub: D Foley, 84), I Roberts.

Referee: N Barry.



You either know where you're going...



...or you don't.

Car  
MAGAZINE

You've either got it...

...or you haven't.

## Stockwell finds the pressure point

Sheffield United ..... 1  
Ipswich Town ..... 1

By DAVID MADDOCK

AS A concept, there is a case to be made for the play-offs. But why bother with all this football business, given that the chances of getting an exciting game are about as high as getting a Tory government?

The point is, these matches are such tense affairs and have so much at stake that it seems a little unfair on the participants. Promotion to the FA Carling Premiership is such a massive prize in these television-sponsored days

that two games is hardly the way to decide the issue.

It creates untold pressures and that is why rumours were spreading around Bramall Lane, where the first leg of the Nationwide League first division play-off was staged on Saturday, that Howard Kendall, the Sheffield United manager, would be under threat if his side ultimately failed to beat Ipswich Town.

It was hardly a classic, nerves jangling in a game that never took off. The Ipswich equaliser was a perfect illustration, the raw nerve ends of the United defence exposed by a pass from Sowden after 78 minutes that found Stockwell unmarked in the penalty

area. He waltzed around defender and goalkeeper and, with the equaliser, the visitors had the advantage.

Before that moment United seemed likely to benefit from some nervous finishing by their opponents as they accepted a valuable lead. Jan-Aage Fjortoft showed how it was done by gliding past Swales to beat Wright, the Ipswich goalkeeper, at his near post after 41 minutes.

SHEFFIELD UNITED (4-4-2): A Kelly — M Ward, C Tier, D Holdsworth, N Nissen — D White (sub: G Sizer, 60min), D Houghton, N Harry, D Whitehouse — J A Fjortoft, P Kozdrobo (sub: G Taylor, 75).

IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): R Wright — G Usherbrook, C Swales, A Vaughan, M Turzoo — M Stockwell, G Williams, S Sedgley, K Dyer — J Sowden, N Gregory (sub: N Gudmundsson, 67).

Referee: R Pearson.

## Whitby's endeavour brings due reward

North Ferriby United ..... 0  
Whitby Town ..... 3

By WALTER GAMMIE

THIS was the weekend when the boat came in for Whitby. As the masses flocked to the town to view the replica of the Endeavour, 6,500 townspeople came to Wembley, watched Whitby Town sail off with the FA Carlsberg Vase and returned happily to take their part in the celebrations.

If North Ferriby's attractive approach play was ill-served by surprising toothlessness round the penalty area and the scoreline did them no real

justice, nobody would wish to deny Whitby their triumph.

Already crowned as the Federation Brewery Northern League champions, Whitby have set aside recent tribulations — being denied a place in the UniBond League three years ago, the collapse of a floodlight pylon — and performed with purpose and spirit under Harry Dunn.

Their experienced and clear-sighted manager might rely on a bunch of eight 30-year-olds but their enthusiasm belied their age. Take David Logan, 33, who scored their first goal in the 28th minute, finding the roof of the net with a swing of his sweet left foot

after Robinson returned a shot by Hodgson that rebounded off the angle of post and bar.

Logan started at Whitby at 17, before embarking on a Football League career with Mansfield Town, Northampton Town, Halifax Town, Stockport County and Scarborough that he drew to a close when offered a job as a telephone engineer. Having returned to square one, only then did he reach "the pinnacle" of his career — scoring at Wembley.

Similar sentiments were expressed by Andy Toman, 35, another football wanderer, now Football in the Community officer at Bishop Auckland.

Together with Cook, he fashioned the all-important second goal, a cross-shot thumped in by Williams.

Then, as the sun broke through, Toman enjoyed a golden moment, fiercely volleying the ball home from a tight angle after Sharp, under pressure, failed to fire Pirman's cross to safety. Whitby were home and dry.

NORTH FERRIBY UNITED (4-4-2): P Sharp — J Denney, J Welmsley, S Branning, A Smith — K Harrison (sub: J Home, 64min), M Smith, D Phillips (sub: S Miller, 59), M Tennant — A Fildes, D France (sub: P Newman, 75).

WHITBY TOWN (3-5-2): D Campbell — D Goodchild, L Pearson, M Cook — G Williams, N Hodgson, A Toman (sub: S Fyfe, 84), N Goodchild (sub: J Cornwell, 78), D Logan — P Toman (sub: M Hall, 68), G Robinson.

Referee: G Pol.







# King's no longer rule waves in water polo

BY JOHN GOODBODY

NO SCHOOL has been so dominant in water polo in recent years as King's, Grantham. Coached by Jim Caulfield, a martinet in the pool but a charming man away from it, King's have usually been supreme in the national schools championships.

In the under-19 event they won five of the eight titles up to 1996. In the under-16 agegroup King's won nine times in the 13 years up to 1996.

Caulfield said: "The standard is getting better every year. I know how Alex Ferguson feels. Still, I get a buzz from these competitions. The adrenalin starts pumping. It's a drug but at least I sleep better than I used to do." He admitted that he "took his frustration out in a vocal sort of way".

He can say that again. His cajoling and criticism on the side of the pool clearly motivates his teams. He wants to win so much that the boys inevitably respond. They want to win for themselves but also for him. It gives them extra incentive. Caulfield said: "One boy said to me that the day I stop shouting is the day I will stop coaching. He was probably right."

"The hardest thing is to keep the consistency. You try to get everyone sharp and ready on the same day. Sometimes not everyone is firing on all cylinders."

In the under-16 event at Putney on Saturday, King's lost 19-3 to Queen Elizabeth. Barnett, who went on to take the title by beating Trinity, Croydon, 19-6 in the final.

In the under-19 competition King's faced Haberdashers' Aske's, Elstree.



SPORT IN SCHOOLS

their opponents in this final in the previous two years. For Trevor Hyde, the Haberdashers' coach, who began these championships 21 years ago, it was the moment for which he had been waiting.

Haberdashers' had never won the title but this year had a team bristling with talent, including James Kattan and Matthew Irish, both of whom have captained the England junior team, and two national trialists, Alex Shaw and Ashley Blake. The final was an epic, with John Allan, of the City of London School, commenting: "It was a real showcase for the sport."

There was never more than two goals between the teams. They were 5-5 at half-time, 9-9 at full-time, 10-10 after one period of extra time and 11-11 at the end of extra time. The teams then went into sudden death and Haberdashers' scored the decisive goal to take the title 12-11. Hyde said: "Jim is the person I look up to most in coaching water polo. It was a measure of the man that he was the first to congratulate our captain."

Haberdashers' have five water polo teams. Hyde said: "It is not difficult to interest boys in the game but it is harder to develop an interest than, say, in football or rugby, which are often on television and tactics and techniques are analysed. That is a learning environment for a boy."

Yet, water polo, he said, has many advantages as a sport. "Most activities are about athletic prowess on the land. Water polo is about athletic prowess under water."

Many natural ball players are poor swimmers and vice versa, so the sport even out the differing requirements.

Allan said: "A lot of good swimmers are not good water polo players. They swim into corners and get lost." Both he and Hyde agree that a requisite is to be a good strategist and to be able to see what is happening around you through flailing arms, splashing water and with a restricted vision because the head is only just above the water.

Although the sport is renowned for its aggressive toughness, the water, explained Hyde, is a "friendly environment", pointing out that "you do not get collisions of bones on a frozen pitch." He has seen only six serious accidents in 32 years involved in the sport. Allan, just two during his 22 years.

But, Hyde added, water polo is also a hard sport. "You cannot breathe when you want to," he said. "Often, just as you are about to breathe, another tackle comes in."

Results, page 40



City of London and Trinity, Croydon, wage battle at Putney

## Challenge crews relishing calm after the storm

In the middle of one of the more relentless storms in the Southern Ocean, someone commented that they could not imagine ever being warm and dry again. Now, just a week into the fifth leg of the BT Global Challenge, we are already in shorts and T-shirts and it is fast becoming hard to imagine being thoroughly cold and wet.

The crew's reflections on the Southern Ocean range from the odd one who would vaguely contemplate returning, perhaps as skipper for the next race or maybe to round Cape Horn the "right" way, to the sentiment expressed by Sarah Brice, the medic on *Concert*, that the only ice she intended to see again was in a gin and tonic.

Cape Town was a tremen-

dous stopover. Apart from the fact that we were relieved to get there, it was an exciting place to visit and, although there was a lot of work to do on the boat, we managed to fit in a bit of exploring, including a scramble up Table Mountain.

In total, we had three weeks to recover from the rigours of the Southern Ocean and to prepare both ourselves and the boat for a very different leg. With some newly replaced parts to the boat — the pulpit on the bow had been battered out of all recognition — and the crew and skipper, Chris Tibbs, all mended and in working order, we were more than ready for the run to Boston.

The start was as impressive as expected in the shadow of Table Mountain. There were

more people than we have seen at any other port, giving us a tremendous send-off, helped by a very impressive "blessing of the waves" by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The weather was kind, too, as we set off in blazing sunshine and then we really did sail off into the sunset — a glorious orange one.

There could be no greater contrast to the previous leg. Our only reminders are the weather faxes received on the on-board computer, which still depicts large areas of the Southern Ocean. We now take

great delight in looking from a distance at some horrible depressions, imagining the storms down there while we are rather snugly up here.

No longer do we have to drag waterlogged sails across a heaving deck, being regularly submerged by large waves. Since the start we have been sailing downwind with spinners, which is positively restful in comparison. No longer do we have to be woken half an hour before our next watch in order to struggle into numerous layers

of clothing. Now it is a five-minute job to stagger out of bed and go straight on deck in casual clothing.

Consequently, the need for sleep is not so urgent and we have more time. We are all talking to each other much more again. We never seemed to have the time in the Southern Ocean — we were too busy just holding on and surviving.

Conversations and thoughts are now beginning to turn to plans for after the race. Cape Town seems to have been something of a watershed and the end of the race is starting to become a reality. Approximately half the crew of *Concert* are intending to return to their jobs, though no one is quite sure of their expectations or how they will cope with "real life"

again. I am sure that this is a topic that will run and run, with the answers becoming less clear the closer we get to Southampton.

Meanwhile, we are thoroughly enjoying the warmer weather and appreciating far more than we did in October. Breakfast on the first day out of Cape Town found us in first place. Unfortunately, this is no longer the case as we are now third. Having lost the last leg by a mere 20 minutes, we need no incentive to avoid the same fate in Boston.

Latest positions (as at 13.56 GMT yesterday, with miles to Boston): *Concert* 5,212; *2* Group 4, 5,312; *3*, *Concert* 5,320; *4*, *Tasmania* 5,327; *5*, *Serve* 5,337; *6*, *Courtesy* 5,341; *7*, *Motorola* 5,352; *8*, *Norfolk* 5,352; *9*, *Global* 5,352; *10*, *Heathrow* 5,372; *11*, *Prize* 5,399; *12*, *Time & Tide* 5,414; *13*, *Scot* 5,418.

## Curling severs link with Barber

POINT-TO-POINT

BY CARL EVANS

ONE of the sport's most successful partnerships ended on Saturday when Polly Gundry finished her association with Richard Barber, the Dorset trainer.

"Having been the yard's No 1 rider in the past I have been unhappy at getting fewer rides this season," Gundry said from her Somerset home yesterday. "The final straw

came when I was told Polly Gundry would ride Earthmover at Cheltenham."

One of the best six-year-olds in the country, Earthmover, had been ridden by Gundry until injury prevented her partnering him in two recent wins, when Gundry took over.

Point-to-pointing's most successful rider in recent years, Gundry, 32, became Barber's first-choice jockey in 1993 and capped her association with the yard when

winning Cheltenham's Foxhunters' Chase on Fantus in 1995, a year in which she rode a record 40 winners between the flags.

She won the national women riders' title three times in that period but the non-stop success ended last year when Gundry took a number of heavy falls after losing her own championship title to Alison Davis. Some owners in the yard lost faith in Gundry and Tim Mitchell effectively

became top rider. Mitchell rode Fantus at Cheltenham in March when the gelding collected his second Foxhunters' Chase, a demolition for Gundry which she felt acutely.

Any ill feeling was suppressed when Gundry raced to 16 winners this year and she was awarded for another women riders' title until a fall on an outside ride last month rendered her unconscious and forced her to the sidelines for the mandatory 21 days.

She had a quiet return last week but when told Gundry would ride Earthmover, Gundry declined the ride on Old Mill Stream, the ladies' open winner under Gundry at the Minshead & West Somerset on Saturday.

"We had some great times and I rode more than 110 winners for the yard," Gundry said. "But when you ride for a high-profile yard you are expected to win on everything. Sometimes people forget that when you ride a lot of five-year-olds you are bound to have falls. Now I'm looking forward to riding for some old friends. I've ridden 195 winners and my next goal is 200. I'm certainly not packing the sport up."

## SAILING

### Dutchman defies odds and squalls

BY EDWARD GORMAN

SAILING CORRESPONDENT

ROY HEINER, of Holland, swept into the finish of the Royal Ocean Racing Club's North Sea Race at Scheveningen on Saturday on his new Mount Gay 30 Deignit, to steal first place overall in the IMS division from many larger yachts.

Heiner, who is based at Enkhuizen on the IJsselmeer and won a bronze medal in the Finn class at the Olympic Games, was all the more impressive for having won on a yacht designed to carry water ballast. This is illegal under IMS rules, so his tanks were empty and sealed.

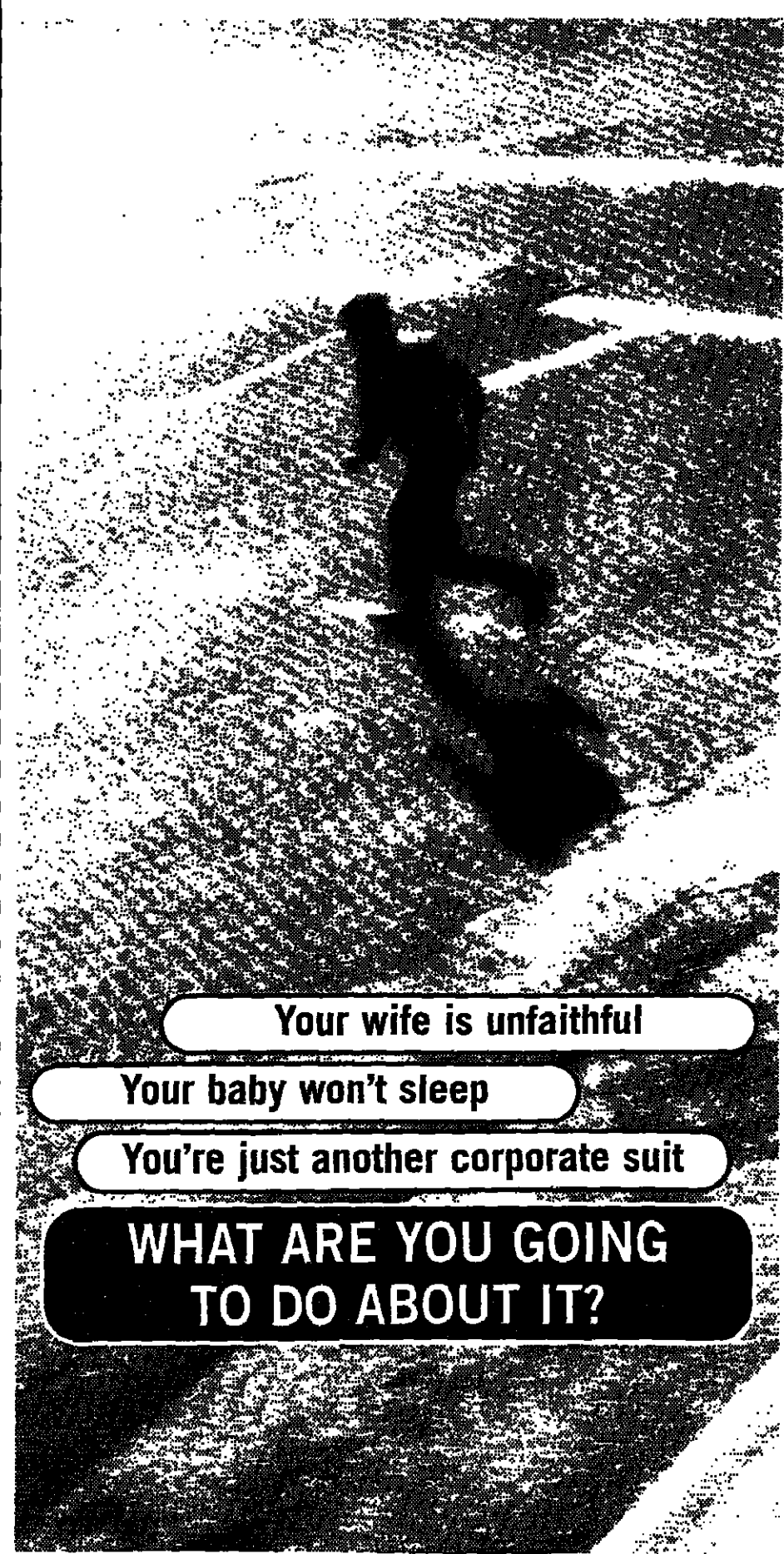
More than half the 60 starters who mustered off Harwich on Friday for the 192-mile race were Dutch, preparing for the IMS European championships next weekend.

A squally south-westerly produced plenty of power amid frequent showers. After a short beat at the start, the fleet was off the wind for most of the race, including a fast spinnaker run up to Smith's Knoll off the Norfolk coast and then a long broad reach on starboard to MSP buoy off IJmuiden.

The first finishers, including Richard Mathews's Oyster 46, *Essex Girl*, which took line honours, were able to fetch all the way to the line. But most of the fleet was forced to tack and they had the 25-knot southerly in their faces as they approached Scheveningen.

In the British-dominated CHS divisions, David Powell, on his West Mersea-based Lightwave 395, *Blush*, prevailed in Class 1 from the Dutch-owned J44, *J-Star*. In Class 2, David Geaves's successful Burnham-on-Crouch-based J35, *Fiona VII*, won for the second year in succession. In Class 3 the OOD34, *Two Geuzters*, owned by Hans Zuiderbaan but skippered by his wife, Hannah, emerged victorious.

Captain Roy Aspinall, of West Mersea, won Class 4 on his well-travelled UFO 34, *Bellerophon*.



Your wife is unfaithful

Your baby won't sleep

You're just another corporate suit

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

## SATURDAY'S DETAILS

**BILSDALE (Easingwold)** Hunt: 1, Dane-ward (11-13), 2, Tinsley Topper, 3, Singing Sam (14-15), 4, Black-wood (16-17), 5, Black-wood (18-19), 6, Black-wood (20-21), 7, Black-wood (22-23), 8, Black-wood (24-25), 9, Black-wood (26-27), 10, Black-wood (28-29), 11, Black-wood (30-31), 12, Black-wood (32-33), 13, Black-wood (34-35), 14, Black-wood (36-37), 15, Black-wood (38-39), 16, Black-wood (40-41), 17, Black-wood (42-43), 18, Black-wood (44-45), 19, Black-wood (46-47), 20, Black-wood (48-49), 21, Black-wood (50-51), 22, Black-wood (52-53), 23, Black-wood (54-55), 24, Black-wood (56-57), 25, Black-wood (58-59), 26, Black-wood (60-61), 27, Black-wood (62-63), 28, Black-wood (64-65), 29, Black-wood (66-67), 30, Black-wood (68-69), 31, Black-wood (70-71), 32, Black-wood (72-73), 33, Black-wood (74-75), 34, Black-wood (76-77), 35, Black-wood (78-79), 36, Black-wood (80-81), 37, Black-wood (82-83), 38, Black-wood (84-85), 39, Black-wood (86-87), 40, Black-wood (88-89), 41, Black-wood 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CRICKET

# Covers shielding playing flaws are washed away

IT WAS almost routine on the eighth day of the Britannic Assurance county championship programme before the first victory of the season was recorded. The fact that it went to Gloucestershire will raise a few eyebrows; the fact that they beat Hampshire will not.

There have been two principal topics of conversation during this sudden start to summer and only one has concerned the weather. Cricket, thus far, might have been fragmented, frustrating and sometimes futile, but it has not been unrevealing. Already, it is clear that a number of teams are depressingly inadequate.

Hampshire are but one of these. Like most sides who consider themselves "in transition" — a useful mitigation for teams not as good as they used to be — their players are either young and promising or old and past their best. They lack the vital middle ground, men in their prime to do the bulk of the work.

But for the washout of the fourth day in the opening round of fixtures, in which they were decidedly second-best against Essex, they would have suffered two heavy defeats by now and there are doubtless more to come.

Matthew Hayden may begin to score the mountains

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

of runs that he forecast for himself when the sun does shine in earnest, and there is something to like in the youthful seam bowling of Dimitri Mascarenhas and Simon Renshaw, but Hampshire, on early evidence, will struggle.

If the gauge for this is that they were soundly thrashed by Gloucestershire, who are themselves highly unlikely to win anything grander than the Costcutters Cup, then bleaker judgment still can be made of Nottinghamshire. They required a lunchtime abandonment on Saturday to

reprieve them from the unthinkable — a championship loss against Durham.

Such hearty, time-honoured scepticism may be unjust to a Durham side that now has a considerable man as leader, in David Boon, and has signed wisely to reinforce a shaky batting order with Nick Speck and Martin Speight. The weather on Saturday was cruel, for neutrals everywhere would have cheered their first victory for two years. But it would still have said too much about the shortcomings of their opponents.

In the early 1990s, Nottinghamshire spent three seasons out of four in the championship place-money. They were eleventh in 1995 and seventeenth a year later, when they lost eight of their last ten matches.

They are picking up where they left off, and, without the dynamism of Chris Cairns, it is even difficult to imagine a repeat of the transient redemption they claimed last season from a silver medal in the Sunday League.

Tim Robinson, 40 next year, is still much their best batsman and the fact that their bowling attack is led by Kevin Evans, an admirably loyal and wholehearted servant who would be a decent first-change in most sides, is sufficient indictment.

Evans, Franks, Bowen, Tolley and Bates — the bowling line-up at Hartlepool — must rank as one of the most anonymous and innocuous attacks of recent years. Mohammad Zahid, Cairns' replacement, may take some wickets if and when he shakes off niggling injuries but he remains a prime example of a club snatching at an overseas player for the sake of having one.

The problems do not end there. Highly promising young players, such as Matt Downman, Usman Azeem and Jimmy Hindson have simply not trained on at Trent Bridge and people are entitled to wonder why. There is a pervasive dourness about the image of the club, which may not help, and for a big county with a much-loved Test ground, Nottinghamshire are in a deepening mess.

They managed a solitary championship win last year and may have a considerable wait for one this time around. They do not, for instance, meet Sussex until the final match of the season, by which time spirit is annually the decisive factor among those teams with nothing to play for but pride.

And this, for all the brave words of their new men at the helm, will assuredly be the fate of Sussex, for they plainly lack the resources to be competitive in a four-day environment. With some burgeoning youngsters and a healthy defiance of the general inclination to write them off, Sussex may get by in limited-overs cricket; may even surprise a few. But there is no escape in the modern championship, which is how it should be, and they were dreadfully exposed at Lord's this week by a Middlesex side some way short of peak form.

Sussex, too, were grateful for the rain, which fell just as an innings defeat looked inevitable. Every other venue, bar Bristol, ended the same way, so the championship table after two rounds has an unusually lame look to it. Nothing that has occurred yet has indicated which county will win the title; but enough has been seen for us to be certain of several who will not.



Wright, who enjoyed success in suits as well as whites, is again devoted to the business of winning matches

## Wright keen to open new chapter

Nice guys, they say, finish last, but it would be wise not to bet on that this summer.

There are plenty of nice guys in cricket and none nicer than John Wright, the former New Zealand captain who has just returned to the English game as coach and manager of Kent.

Everybody likes him, even those bowlers who had so much difficulty prising him from the crease during a 19-year playing career that included 88 Test matches and 12 years in county cricket with Derbyshire. He is not just a nice guy, though; he is a hard guy, a left-handed opening batsman who stood up unflinchingly to the fastest bowlers in the world for the best part of two decades. He is an unyielding guy who once glued his top hand to the bat handle to make a point about his technique.

He is an intelligent guy who went straight from cricket into a management job with a leading multinational company. He is a competitive guy, who within three years was in charge of sales and distribution for a food manufacturing firm. And he is a passionate guy, who has now given up his burgeoning busi-

ness career for the game he loves.

He was sitting at his office desk in Christchurch when he received a telephone call from England telling him that Kent were looking for a replacement for Daryl Foster, their Australian coach. Now he is trying to come to terms with the difference between playing, which he was still doing only four years ago, and coaching, which is almost entirely new to him.

"It was quite a big career decision," Wright, 42, with a wife and two young children, said, with considerable understatement. "He was believed to have turned down a similar career move with Derbyshire last year. 'I suppose I had always wanted an opportunity to coach as long as it was the right opportunity,'" he said.

"In New Zealand, opportunities like this are non-existent unless you are coaching the national side, and I thought this was as good as I was going to get. I very much enjoyed my time as a county cricketer and I knew Kent

because I played for them before I joined Derbyshire in 1976. I also knew that they were very keen and passionate about their cricket, and while I am sure that brings a lot of expectation and pressure to produce results, there is nothing wrong with that."

Wright believes that his business experience will help him in that respect. "I have seen life outside cricket," he said, "and I think that is very important because business can be even more focused and competitive than sport."

Basically, when you look at most successful businesses and successful teams, many of the factors are very similar. You do have a structure, you do have discipline, you do have accountability, you do review your performance, you do make changes when necessary, you do try and create a culture.

"There is not a lot of difference, really. It is just a different game. Things happen more quickly out in the middle and instead of look-

ing at the weekly sales results I will be looking at the county championship table. Instead of shareholders to satisfy, I have now got members."

Kent supporters should not be disappointed. Wright's experience as a coach may be limited to the odd certificate and helping out at the recently established New Zealand cricket academy, but he has a profound knowledge of the game and a philosophy that he has already spent out to his players. "It is very different and very new to me," he said. "I am untried and untested, but Kent have taken a punt on me and I am looking forward to the challenge."

The thing that I loved most about Test cricket was being able to compete with the very best, and the thing that I value most about players is the desire to compete. Things like promise, talent, ability, you can have all of them, but unless you have the instinct, the attitude and the total single-mindedness to achieve and compete, you will not get very far."

A nice guy? "I don't think that niceness comes into it really," Wright said. "It is when you are not hard and competitive that you are going to come last."

## Curtis hails healthy impact of four-day revolution

By Simon Wilde

ANYONE who thinks English cricket has not made great strides in recent years should listen to the tale of Tim Curtis, who is retiring this summer after a distinguished career for Worcestershire, with whom he won two championships and four one-day trophies.

He was educated well, academically and in cricket, and has always considered the game's broader interests, a fact recognised by the seven years he was granted as chairman of the Cricketers' Association and three as Worcestershire captain. He played five times for England.

Curtis "made" it as a player, but for a time it was tough-and-go. He first appeared for Worcestershire in 1979, at the age of 19, in the era of three-day cricket, countless overseas players and contrived finishes. He spent much of his first seven championship matches watching Glenn Turner score six centuries and barely got to the crease.

"When I started playing Somerset possessed Viv Richards and Joel Garner, and with Ian Botham and Vic Marks also in the side, you were facing something like a Test attack," he said. "You might say that the game was stronger in those days but, in terms of overall standard and competitive level, county cricket has greatly improved."

"We have only been playing fully professional cricket in



Curtis bowling out

this country for 35 years and it took a long time for the championship to produce cut-and-thrust cricket. The four-day game has been good for that. Every run scored, wicket and catch taken, is fought for and the standard is improving all the time. The positives are coming through. There is time to practise between matches and a growing demand for good practice facilities.

There is also more logic to a championship in which every team plays the others once. It was no coincidence that when Worcestershire won the title in 1988 and 1989 we played six teams twice and those included Gloucestershire and Glamorgan, who were not strong.

Predictably, in view of his early experience, Curtis quickly resolved to make himself into an opening batsman. The role seemed to suit his temperament, even though it proved a far from smooth process.

His first championship century did not come until 1984 but, in the end, he took centuries off all Worcestershire's county opponents and scored more than 20,000 runs in all first-class matches at an average of 40.

One of the steps taken by the Cricketers' Association during Curtis's championship was to encourage its members to develop careers outside the game. "If one of the present proposals under consideration is adopted, young players will increasingly join counties as semi-professionals with outside jobs," he said.

They will play at weekends and take a day off to play during the week. The counties will then be able to find out about them without 'cutting them off from other work'."

Curtis could hardly have been chosen for England at worse times, coming into sides that were losing heavily to West Indies in 1983 and Australia in 1989, the year in which an unofficial party was being secretly assembled to tour South Africa. "We knew there were rebels within the team but did not know who they were," he said.

"My abiding memory is of us watching the county scores on CeeFax in the dressing-room. I may have felt it more because Worcestershire were doing well, but I think we all took solace in our county's fortunes. I don't look back and think I should have played more times for my country. I do have a regret, it is that I did not show more confidence. I would have loved to smack the ball around like I think I should have relaxed more."



Evans: loyal



Robinson: best batsman

## Late finishes herald Sussex's new dawn

SAY what you like about Sussex — and a good deal will be said if they go on playing as they did at Lord's this week — but they are not short of positive ideas (Alan Lee writes). The "old farism" that dominated the club for generations is now tolerated only so long as it sits in the corner in benign silence.

Now that the new committee is in place and includes businessmen such as Don Tringham, a director of Marks & Spencer, in addition to John Snow and John Spencer, both former players, expect some action that the Sussex of old would have regarded as unacceptably radical.

One early example of the forward thinking will be a proposal to play some mid-summer county championship cricket during hours when more people can watch it. Sussex, keenly aware that their regular patronage is predominantly elderly and determined to appeal to a younger audience, want to start some of their four-day games at 1pm and play through to 8.30pm.

The notion, one of a number formulated by the sharp mind of Tony Pigott, the new chief executive, is designed to attract people who work nine-to-five and

could therefore see half a day's cricket straight from the office.

It is an extension of the floodlit cricket exercise, revived by Surrey and taken up enthusiastically this summer by both Warwickshire and Sussex. All three are to stage Axa Life League fixtures on midweek evenings, probably with a 5pm start, and the prospect of a nasty fall-out between two of the experimenters has, thankfully, been avoided.

Sussex had initially decided upon their mid-June fixture with Essex as the ideal night match. Approval had been obtained from the England and Wales Cricket Board and a sponsor was lined up when Surrey made contact with a plea for a postponement.

Surrey's floodlit fixture is against Nottinghamshire on Friday, June 27. It will have television coverage and sponsorship which, apparently, were dependent on it being the first of its kind, a boast that Sussex's plans would have scuppered.

After some debate, Sussex agreed to back down and will not now be shaking up the citizens of Hove with lights, music and all things modern until the end of August. Their opponents, appropriately, will be Surrey.

## Lancashire's source of cup success runs dry

By Alan Lee

LANCASHIRE have made a moribund start to the season and will relinquish the first of the two cups they hold today with elimination from the Benson and Hedges Cup. Technically, they could still reach the quarter-finals, but it requires such a mind-boggling coincidence of scores and results that the prospect cannot be taken seriously.

Victory over Worcestershire in their final group match at Old Trafford, would not in itself be enough. Lancashire would need to make a record total to boost their inferior run-rate and then rely on Warwickshire beating Derbyshire in a low-scoring affair at Derby. It is all too fanciful. Lancashire are out and deservedly so.

What has gone wrong? Well, an injury or two, certainly, but there is more to it than that. The Lancashire batting has lacked conviction, with

Atherton and Crawley particularly barren. They have not made the totals to dominate games as they did through a run of 15 times unbeaten while winning the competition twice in succession.

Elimination, though, may be no bad thing. Perhaps they can now be faithful to the pledge plastered on the noticeboards of the pavilion and concentrate on fulfilling their potential in the county championship. In an attempt to mirror the intimidation of the Anfield tunnel, there is now a cold sign on the stairs to the dressing-rooms announcing "This is Old Trafford". They must now play some cricket to justify it.

Yorkshire will guarantee themselves a home quarter-final, providing they beat Minor Counties at Headingley today, while the game at Derby should be a straight eliminator. In the other groups, Essex, Kent and Leicestershire remain unbeaten and favourites to go through as winners.

Surrey, many people's idea of the likely winners, are not yet certain to progress but only an improbably heavy defeat by Sussex at the Oval will dislodge them from a place in the last eight on May 27.

Group A

Yorkshire	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Derbyshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Warwickshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Leicestershire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Minor Counties	4	3	1	0	6	2.65

Group B

Lancashire	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Derbyshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Warwickshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Leicestershire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Minor Counties	4	3	1	0	6	2.65

Group C

Kent	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Surrey	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Gloucestershire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Sussex	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Nottinghamshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Hampshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65

Group D

Essex	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Surrey	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Gloucestershire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Sussex	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Nottinghamshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65
Hampshire	4	3	1	0	6	2.65

### Britannic Assurance county championship

#### Derbyshire v Surrey

DERBY (first day of four): Derbyshire (7pts) drew with Surrey (8)

SURREY: First innings 287 (S P Thompson 85, M P Boucher 74, D E Malen 4 for 58)

DERBYSHIRE: First innings

A S Pollock c Lewis b M P Boucher 10

A S Khan not out 62

J Aiden c Bow b P Bicknell 14

M J Jones c Thompson b Benjamin 43

V P Clarke not out 10

Salisbury 11-4-29-1; Salisbury 9-2-24-0

Total (8 wickets) 158

Second innings

M E Cresswell c K M Kewen b P J DeFreitas 1

K J Dean, A J Harris and D E Malen did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-0, 3-1, 4-1

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 6-1-30-2; Lewis 6-0-25-0; Tudor 2-0-20-0; Hollister 3-0-12-0; Benjamin 11-4-29-1; Salisbury 9-2-24-0

Umpires: A J Jones and B Dudson

#### Durham v Nottinghamshire

HARTLEPOOL (first day of four): Durham (10pts) drew with Nottinghamshire (7)

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First innings 170 (C M Tolley 4, A Walker 7 for 58)

DURHAM: First innings 170 (N J Speck 60, D C Boon 68)

Umpires: R Allen and J F Steele

#### Gloucestershire v Hampshire

BRISTOL (first day of four): Gloucestershire (24pts) beat Hampshire (8) by six wickets

HAMPSHIRE: First innings 316 (S D Udal 55, R A Smith 4, A Smith 4 for 61)

Second innings

J S Lacey c Bow b Smith 9

M J Hayden c Ball b Smith 40

S J Shepherson c Hancock b Ball 8

R A Smith c Russell b Alroy 20

W S Kneeshaw c Russell b Llewellyn 20

N H Aynsley c Bow b Smith 10

S D Udal c Bow b Smith 14

A D Mascarenhas c Alroy b Smith 21

S J Renshaw c Bow b Smith 11

Notts 11-4-29-1; Salisbury 9-2-24-0

Total (8 wickets) 158

Second innings

M E Cresswell c K M Kewen b P J DeFreitas 1

K J Dean, A J Harris and D E Malen did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-0, 3-0, 4-10, 5-15, 6-15

BOWLING: Brown 23-7-57-1; Kneeshaw 13-2-24-0; Udal 10-3-50-1; Bowling 21-1-12-0; Boon 3-1-7-0; Foster 5-0-21-0; Collingwood 1-0-6-0

Umpires: R Allen and J F Steele

#### Gloucestershire v Hampshire

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Second innings

J S Lacey c Bow b Smith 9



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Middlesex cruise to Sunday League victory with Ramprakash firmly at the helm

# Fraser rips the heart out of feeble Sussex

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

LORD'S (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex (4pts) beat Sussex by seven wickets

THE yellow shirts that Sussex wear on Sundays have served as a fitting commentary on the cricket they have played at Lord's this week. They avoided an overwhelming defeat in the championship match that finished on Saturday only because rain ripped out more than a day's play. Yesterday, they lost by a country mile in the Axa Life League because they could make no more than 131 for nine.

Middlesex won easily, having 11 overs to spare when they reached their revised target of 120 in 38 overs. It was their first victory of the season, coming after a run of four defeats in one-day cricket, including that Benson and Hedges Cup loss in Dublin, and a draw in the championship. Mark Ramprakash maintained his fluent early-season form with an unbeaten half-century.

It was not an ideal pitch for one-day cricket and Mike Gatting's decision to ask Sussex to bat first on it was justified when his bowlers threatened to run through their batting for a song. That Sussex managed to complete their 40-over allocation owed everything to an unbeaten last-wicket stand of 39 by Mark Robinson and Amer Khan.

At the end of a frightful week Sussex could point to that stand with a measure of pride, or, if not pride, amusement. To find Sussex's previous best last-wicket stand in Sunday cricket you must go back to 1969, the first year of the competition, when John Snow and Don Bates made an unbeaten 37 against Hampshire at Hove. To be honest, it does not mean a lot. Sunday cricket, when it is played this poorly, early in the season, on a fairly cheerless day, is a miserable experience.

Angus Fraser might not agree. He has been searching

high and low for wickets to kick-start his benefit year, one that is bound to be well-rewarded given his excellent service to Middlesex and England over the past decade. Watching him bowl is an entertainment all by itself because he never bothers to disguise his feelings.

After Ricky Fay had taken two of the first three wickets, bowling his eight overs unchanged at the start of the innings, Fraser burst into action at the Pavilion End. By the time he had finished,

Johnson at gallop ..... 36  
Lynch's assault ..... 36  
League scores ..... 40

Sussex were down and out at 90 for eight and he had taken three for ten from eight overs. Peter Moores was bowled neck and crop. Paul Jarvis hoiked one to deep square leg and Nick Phillips carved to third man, where Scott Moffat held a good running catch.

It was not the strongest Sussex side, although it is increasingly difficult to know what is. Rather like the government in *The King and I*, recruits in their dressing-room must feel it is a case of "getting to know you, getting to know all about you; getting to like you, hoping that you like me".

## TABLE

Yorkshire (9)	PW	L	TNR	Pts	PP
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8
Leicestershire (9)	2	2	0	0	8

There was a Newell out there yesterday, a chap called Pyemont and another fellow youth by the name of Strong. With a Rao, and a Khan, and a hey-nony-no, spectators should keep a *Playfair* by their beds this year when planning a day watching Sussex. Desmond Haynes, who said when he was appointed the club's coach last year that he would write letters to all the players on their birthday, is going to be one very busy man.

Newell was the top scorer yesterday, making 21, all but two of them in singles. That is the stuff to bring back the crowds! Then, after Sussex fell away to 92 for nine, there was the glorious spectacle of Robinson batting out eight overs, exceeding his previous Sunday-best score, seven, as he did so.

It was not the best pitch for strokeplayers but it was still a feeble effort to make no more than 131. Even though Weekes and Kallis went early, before rain lopped two overs off the Middlesex reply, Gatting and Ramprakash had few difficulties. They came together as a rainbow appeared over Regent's Park and, though their batting was not so colourful, they made 95 in 18 overs to put the result beyond doubt.

Gatting pulled Khan to deep backward square leg when he would rather have finished with an asterisk against his name. Ramprakash went calmly to his fifty, driving Khan over long-on for a six to go with five fives — as many as Sussex managed between them — and ended the game with a sixth, picked up over mid-wicket. When other batsmen are struggling to make runs he is making them left, right and centre and that is all a batsman can do.

One thing is for sure. Sussex could do with somebody like him. Please, no more excuses from the South Coast. If they want to play this wretched week behind them they should try looking in the mirror.



Moores is comprehensively bowled by Fraser as the Sussex innings collapses at Lord's yesterday

## Careful Habib makes the difference

BY SIMON WILDE

WORCESTER (Worcestershire won toss): Leicestershire (4pts) beat Worcestershire by six runs

LEICESTERSHIRE exacted a measure of revenge for their embarrassment in the championship fixture at New Road by upsetting Worcestershire. Old hands at the one-day game, in a truncated Axa Life League match yesterday, a state of rainfalls preventing a start until 5.20pm. After a most unpromising start — at one point they were 27 for six — they ran out winners in a 16-overs thrash with something to spare.

Worcestershire began the last over, bowled by Maddy, requiring 15 runs to reach their target of 99, but they could manage only eight and finished on 92 for nine. In reality, they lost the match

earlier in the innings, when they were shocked at the swift loss of Moody and Hick. They were tied down by disciplined bowling and several batsmen perished in attempts to break free.

Leicestershire also won because they possessed the one batsman, Aftab Habib, who was able to produce an innings of substance in such a frenetic game, but they did themselves no favours by responding to being asked to bat first by shuffling their order bewilderingly. Whitaker kept himself back to No 7 and Maddy to No 8 and no one but Habib seemed to have the first idea of what to do.

They lost three wickets in the third over and one each in the fourth, sixth and eighth overs, at which point the score was 27 for six. If they sent in men to hit Newport off his length, it did not work. Wells

and Smith, in his first innings of the season, were both bowled driving loosely and their running between the wickets descended into chaos after a fine piece of anticipation by Leatherdale had led to the running out of Dakin.

Nixon, Whitaker and Macmillan were subsequently also run out, all by substantial distances. They will not want to reflect on any of them, but they would be wise to remember for future reference that Spiring and Solanki have fine arms.

It was Habib, who was the only man who bothered to play himself in, who gave Leicestershire something to defend with a creative, unbeaten 45 from 43 balls, with two sixes and three fours. Once he was finally joined by Maddy, 40 runs came in 22 balls, with an over from Sheriary costing 14 runs and another from Brinkley 17.

This season, Habib is fulfilling the promise he showed last year, but he was frustrated at how little of the strike he commanded towards the end of the innings. He showed the sharpness of his eye, though, by stepping across to pick up a ball well outside off stump from Sheriary and dispatch it through wide mid on.

Worcestershire's start was not much more auspicious than that of their opponents. Moody and Hick strode out with great purpose, as though intent on scoring the runs themselves, and few would have bet against them. Yet within four overs, both had departed to the extra bounce of Muffally, who caught Moody himself off a leading edge and saw Hick send a cut into the hands of Johnson, thus maintaining his miserable start to the season.

which an Australian supporter presented the batsman with a glass of chilled lager.

Australia, en route to England where they will defend the Ashes, reached 248 for six, claiming the Super Challenge Cup in the first one-day international held in Hong Kong.

The Rest of the World reached a respectable total, thanks to the efforts of the Indians, Rohan Gavaskar (51) and Sanjay Manjrekar (80), and some punchy play by the middle order, including some rather agricultural swings.

Taylor admitted that he faced a big challenge in the opening weeks of the Ashes tour. He said on Saturday that he would drop himself from the Test side if he failed to rediscover his form.

"I've got a month to prove to myself and the other selectors that I am one of the two best opening batsmen in this side," he said.

## Gates open on new facilities

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THEY officially opened the Dennis Brooks Gates at Northamptonshire's County Ground yesterday, but not many people passed through them as a succession of heavy showers washed out their Axa Life League game against Somerset.

The gates, bearing the name of a man who has served Northamptonshire for 60 years as player, captain, coach, finance administrator, committee member and captain, and a new wall at the Abington Avenue end of the ground effectively complete the work made necessary by the departure of Northampton Town Football Club three years ago.

At Derby, a thoroughly miserable five days at the Racecourse Ground ended with the Axa Life League game between Derbyshire and Surrey going the same way as their county championship meeting.

The teams spent four-fifths of the time kicking their heels in the changing rooms, culminated in a final curtain at 5pm yesterday afternoon. Numerous pitch inspections by Barry Duddleston and Allan Jones, the umpires, held out a faint hope of a start at 5.30pm, but torrential rain then followed a cloudburst in the early afternoon and there was no option but to settle for a no-result.

Teams will be hoping for a change in the weather for the final round of Benson and Hedges Cup games today.

Middlesex have added Ricky Fay and David Nash as they search for their first win in this year's competition against Somerset at Lord's. Vasebert Drakes, the fast bowler, and Keith Newell, the batsman, are both doubtful for Sussex's crucial game against Surrey at the Oval.

Drakes suffered a side injury and Newell a pulled hamstring in the drawn county championship match against Middlesex.

If Newell is unfit he may be replaced by his 23-year-old younger brother, Mark, and James Pyemont, the teenage batsman, could also be considered for his debut in the competition.

## YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

### AXA Life League

#### Durham v Nottinghamshire

HARTLEPOOL (Nottinghamshire won toss): Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Durham by nine wickets

DURHAM  
J E Morris c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Pollard b Bates ..... 2

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-45, 3-58, 4-104, 5-111, 6-136, 7-137, 8-147.

BOWLING: Evans 5-0-25-0; Taylor 5-0-25-1; Bates 5-0-25-2; Bates 5-0-25-3; Bates 5-0-25-4; Bates 5-0-25-5; Bates 5-0-25-6; Bates 5-0-25-7; Bates 5-0-25-8; Bates 5-0-25-9; Bates 5-0-25-10.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2  
M P Spangsh c Bates b Evans ..... 2

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-45, 3-58, 4-104, 5-111, 6-136, 7-137, 8-147.

BOWLING: Evans 5-0-25-0; Taylor 5-0-25-1; Bates 5-0-25-2; Bates 5-0-25-3; Bates 5-0-25-4; Bates 5-0-25-5; Bates 5-0-25-6; Bates 5-0-25-7; Bates 5-0-25-8; Bates 5-0-25-9; Bates 5-0-25-10.

GLoucestershire v Hampshire

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss): No result, Gloucestershire (2pts) Hampshire (2)

GLoucestershire  
M A Lynch not out ..... 8  
A J Wright c James b Udd ..... 2  
S Young c Stephenson b Udd ..... 2  
M A Lynch not out ..... 8  
A J Wright c James b Udd ..... 2  
S Young c Stephenson b Udd ..... 2  
M A Lynch not out ..... 8  
A J Wright c James b Udd ..... 2  
S Young c Stephenson b Udd ..... 2  
M A Lynch not out ..... 8

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-45, 3-58, 4-104, 5-111, 6-136, 7-137, 8-147.

BOWLING: Evans 5-0-25-0; Taylor 5-0-25-1; Bates 5-0-25-2; Bates 5-0-25-3; Bates 5-0-25-4; Bates 5-0-25-5; Bates 5-0-25-6; Bates 5-0-25-7; Bates 5-0-25-8; Bates 5-0-25-9; Bates 5-0-25-10.

Middlesex v Sussex

LORD'S (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex (4pts) beat Sussex by seven wickets (D.V. Method)

SUSSEX  
G Greenfield c Kallis b Hewitt ..... 13  
R R Rao b Fay ..... 10  
M Newell c Weekes b Kallis ..... 21  
J P Pyemont c Gatting b Weekes ..... 4  
P W Jarvis c Ramprakash b Fraser ..... 4  
N C Phillips c Moffat b Fraser ..... 3  
A A Khan not out ..... 22  
M R Stamp b Kallis ..... 9  
M A Robinson not out ..... 33  
Extras (lb 15, w 16, nb 2) ..... 33  
Total (8 wickets, 40 overs) ..... 191  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-44, 3-54, 4-58, 5-71, 6-84, 7-87, 8-90, 9-92.

BOWLING: Hewitt 4-0-24-1; Fay 4-0-23-2; Ditch 4-0-24-3; Weekes 3-0-32-1; Fraser 4-0-24-4; Kallis 4-0-24-5; Stamp 4-0-24-6; Robinson 4-0-24-7; Phillips 4-0-24-8; Jarvis 4-0-24-9; Pyemont 4-0-24-10.

### Worcestershire v Leicestershire

WORCESTERSHIRE (Worcestershire won toss): Leicestershire (4pts) beat Worcestershire by six runs

LEICESTERSHIRE  
N C Johnson c Spangsh b Newport ..... 11  
V J Wells b Newport ..... 6  
J M Dakin not out ..... 2  
P A Nelson not out ..... 2  
A Habib not out ..... 45  
B F Smith b Haynes ..... 0  
J J Whitaker not out ..... 0  
G H Macmillan not out ..... 0  
D I Maddy c Hick b Leatherdale ..... 14  
P Pearce not out ..... 6  
Extras (lb 4, w 2) ..... 6  
Total (8 wickets, 16 overs) ..... 92  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-18, 3-19, 4-20, 5-22, 6-27, 7-44, 8-44.

BOWLING: Newport 4-0-15-2; Haynes 3-0-9-1; Brinkley 3-0-25-0; Leatherdale 3-0-18-1; Sharkey 3-0-25-0.

Worcestershire  
M Moody c b Muffally ..... 2  
G A Hick c Johnson b Muffally ..... 8  
V S Solanki c Habib b Pearce ..... 17  
W P Cowie c Dakin b Pearce ..... 10  
G R Haynes b b b Dakin ..... 10  
D I Maddy c b b Leatherdale ..... 14  
G H Macmillan not out ..... 0  
J J Whitaker not out ..... 0  
P Pearce not out ..... 0  
Extras (lb 4, w 2, nb 2) ..... 6  
Total (8 wickets, 16 overs) ..... 92  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-11, 3-30, 4-35, 5-44, 6-54, 7-55, 8-59, 9-61.

BOWLING: Pearce 4-0-25-2; Maddy 3-0-25-1; Dakin 3-0-25-1; Sharkey 3-0-25-0.

Yorkshire v Glamorgan

HEADINGLEY (Yorkshire won toss): Yorkshire (4pts) beat Glamorgan by seven wickets

GLAMORGAN  
S P James c White b Stamp ..... 32  
N R Morris c White b Stamp ..... 32  
A Dale c Stamp b Whalley ..... 18  
M P Maynard c Gough b Stamp ..... 21  
P A Cotterill c Gough ..... 22  
R D Cribb c b b Whalley ..... 22  
G P Butcher not out ..... 6  
P A Shaw not out ..... 10  
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 2) ..... 8  
Total (6 wickets, 32 overs) ..... 162  
Wagor Youngs, S L Walden and O T Parkin did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-52, 3-84, 4-86, 5-109, 6-130.

BOWLING: Silverwood 5-0-38-0; Gough 7-0-33-1; Stamp 5-0-32-3; White 4-0-38-0; Whalley 4-0-38-0.

Yorkshire  
D Pias c Morris b Dale ..... 83  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37  
M P Vaughan c Parkin ..... 37

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-132, 3-177.

BOWLING: Whalley 4-0-23-0; Wagor Youngs 4-0-29-0; Cribb 4-0-24-0; Parkin 5-0-33-1; Butcher 5-0-25-1; Dale 4-0-22-1; Maynard 0-3-0-0.

Umpires: S Leadbetter and D R Shepherd.

No play

Derby: Derbyshire v Surrey, Northampton: Northamptonshire v Somerset. Matches abandoned two points each side.

## Johnson has the right formula

BY IVO TENNANT

HARTLEPOOL (Nottinghamshire won toss): Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Durham by nine wickets (D.V. method)

IN AN Axa Life match of 23 overs a side, Durham, who were put in, made 155 for eight. Nottinghamshire were thus left to score 154 to win. If anybody on the ground understood this logic — the scorers took 15 minutes to settle on this computation — it was not apparent. Duckworth Lewis are making for a baffling duo.

The public-address announcer had a stab at explaining this new system for resolving run rates required for rain-affected limited overs matches, but, wisely, desisted. Besides, the crowd was much



Johnson: unbeaten 74

more concerned with the relegation from the FA Carling Premiership of Middlesex, Derbyshire and Sunderland. Nottinghamshire won with 26 balls to spare, Paul Johnson making an unbeaten 74 off 42 balls with 13 fours.

The Association of County Cricket Scorers has already made it clear that it is none too happy at having to grapple with this complex system. Some among its number are of pensionable age and they found coping with computerisation difficult enough when it was introduced in 1993. One scorer, who is now dead, failed to comprehend that his computer would not work if he used the "mouse" upside down.

Anyway, 154 was what Not-

tinghamshire required to win, and that was what they got. Last year they finished runners-up in this competition and, if they continue to bat and bowl like this, they should do well once more. Johnson and Robinson put on an unbeaten 105 for the second wicket in a mere 11 overs. The manner in which they found the gaps in the field was exemplary.

Durham, as was evident last season, do not possess the kind of niggardly attack necessary to excel in this form of the game. Robinson and Downman began with 56 off seven overs before the latter drove a return catch to Brown. Johnson, no doubt irked by a suggestion in the national press from a former opponent that Nottinghamshire are no longer worthy of first-class status, played a splendidly aggressive innings of calculated drives and pulls.

Killeen and Foster were the two bowlers in particular who struggled to maintain the right length. Johnson, who has not found his touch in first-class cricket this season, also came up with some deft late cuts and improvised glided shots to find the boundary. By the end of his innings, nobody quite knew where to bowl at him.

That there was any play at all reflected well on the groundstaff at this most hospitable of clubs. This is Peter Mandelson country, but sport has been the only obsession here for the past five chilly days. Three of Durham's new players made the bulk of their runs, but none of them dominated the bowling in the manner Johnson did later in the afternoon.

Speight opened, as he expects to do regularly this season, and struck 42 off 39 balls before reverse sweeping Bates to square leg. Boon was starting to play with some freedom when he was run out by a direct throw from Bates, changing the kind of single that even a man of his build has to take on Sundays. Speak contributed, too, but insufficient runs came at the end of the innings for Durham to give their bowlers much succour.

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CRICKET

# Byas tilts match in Yorkshire's favour

By MICHAEL AUSTIN

HEADINGLEY (Yorkshire won toss; Yorkshire (4pts) beat Glamorgan by seven wickets (D/L method)

THE white rose bloomed beneath unrelenting grey skies yesterday as David Byas, the Yorkshire captain, cast aside his modest limited-overs form with a match-winning innings of 83 in the Axa Life League.

Byas, who hit nine fours and faced 78 balls, gave Yorkshire instant impetus when chasing 193. He dominated an opening partnership of 84 in 12 overs with Michael Vaughan as Waqar Younis, Glamorgan's fast-bowling import from Pakistan, struggled on his Sunday debut. Yorkshire won with 33 balls to spare.

After dispensing with their out-grounds, apart from Scarborough, more matches will be played at this old-established arena than in living memory, and the focus at Headingley is sharper than ever.

This pitch looked in far better shape than the dual purpose surface for the Benson and Hedges Cup game against Worcestershire and the drawn championship match against Glamorgan. It had some pace, which suited Tony Cottee, who hit six fours and two sixes from 31 balls, and offered equal encouragement for the bowlers. Except for pulling rabbits from a hat, Cottee did almost everything else.

Nimble-footed, he moved into position and gave himself room, ultimately perishing in the way he had flourished, moving across his stumps and being yorked by Gough. By then, Cottee had sustained his Sunday form, having made 61 in the defeat by Somerset last week. His fifth-wicket partnership of 83 in ten overs with Robert Croft made a brash statement after the match had been trimmed to 32 overs by a delayed start and a rain interruption.

Croft struck 29 from 27 balls, following the typically purposeful approach of Morris, with 32 from 34. Morris, James and Maynard all tumbled to Stemp, whose cumulative limited-overs return is 12 for 189 this season. Stemp's brief glimmer as an England prospect may have been extinguished, but his merits at county level remain undimmed. Now in his fifth summer with the county, he has emerged as Yorkshire's

most consistent early-season bowler.

Gough also had his moments and fondly recalls these Sunday encounters with Glamorgan. Three years ago, he celebrated his selection for England's one-day squad by bowling Yorkshire to a nine-wicket win at Cardiff. The next summer, he yorled Dale with the final ball of the game at Headingley as Yorkshire triumphed by two runs.

At 37, Hartley had a considerable input in this latest win. With Gough a near-automatic choice for England against Australia this summer, Hartley is an especially precious county commodity. Though omitted from the championship match that ended in a rain-ridden draw on Saturday, Hartley continued his upper-order batting role, this time at No 3. Statistics testify to his unsung past. Needing 25 to complete the Sunday double of 1,000 runs and 100 wickets, he was dismissed for 23 from 17 balls.

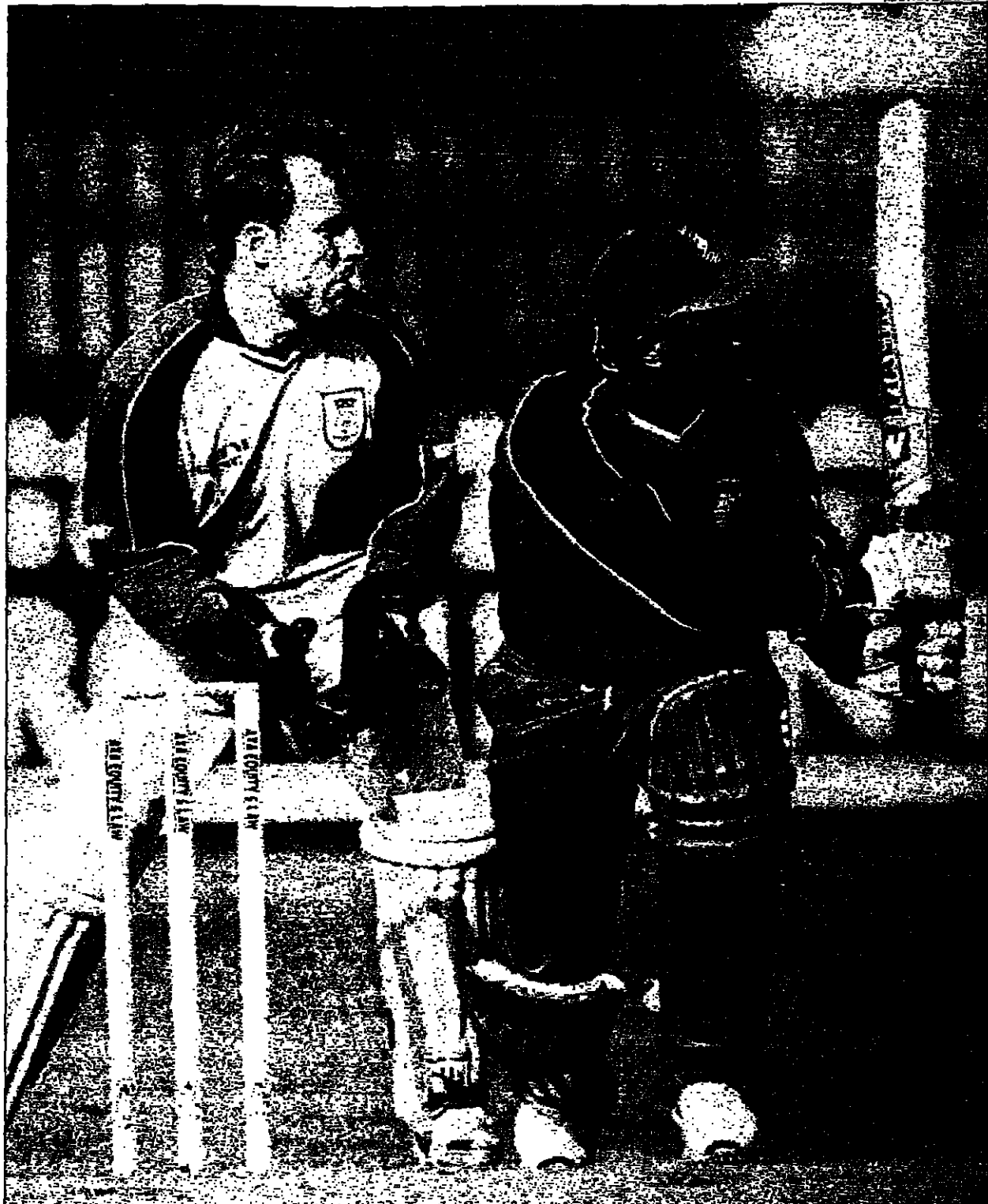
Hartley, with 164 wickets, still lurks on the brink of joining that Yorkshire elite of Chris Old, Phil Carrick and Graham Stevenson. Old remains, and will do so alone, on the pinnacle of 1,711 runs and 192 wickets.

Even Hartley's departure did not detract from Yorkshire's advance. Vaughan, with 37 from 34 balls, had been already bowled by a ball from Parkin that kept low.

Yorkshire hurtled along at a carefree seven an over. Waqar conceding 29 from four overs while Byas thrashed six fours in a 47-ball half-century. This merry romp extended Yorkshire's limited-overs success this season. With a place in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final draw beckoning, they have a first title in a decade on the horizon.

When Byas was caught at short extra cover, Yorkshire needed only 16 runs with eight overs remaining. Darren Lehmann, with three consecutive centuries in all competitions, completed the task with an unbeaten 33 from 21 balls.

The annual Costcutter Cup at Harrogate is also among Yorkshire's limited-overs programme. It was announced yesterday that Scotland will compete for the first time, meeting Durham on June 10, with Yorkshire playing Gloucestershire the previous day. The final will be played on June 11.



Lynch flicks Udal for four during an explosive innings rendered meaningless by the return of heavy rain

## Alleyne welcomes team input

By JAMES ALLEN

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss; No result. Gloucestershire (2pts) Hampshire (2))

FOR a man coming to terms with the cares of captaincy, Mark Alleyne cut a relaxed figure. It no doubt helps that the team he inherited on the eve of the season has taken an early lead in the county championship, but it is hard to imagine the giant smile that regularly breaks across his features being banished for long, even in adversity.

It would be wrong, however, to mistake such affability for a lack of determination to make the most of the opportunity that has suddenly come his way at the age of 28. He was as surprised as anyone when Jack Russell, who had been expected to stand in as captain in place of Courtney Walsh, failed to agree to terms under which he would

take the job. "I attended the county captains' meeting in March, but I just went as a representative," Alleyne said.

"Jack was meeting the club the next day and I thought it was a question of just sorting out a few details. They did not agree and I was more than happy to accept their offer. I might have seemed a third choice, but I really don't want to look at it that way. The club have been incredibly supportive."

As the rain toyed with the Axa Life League match against Hampshire at Bristol yesterday, which was eventually abandoned after Gloucestershire's truncated innings — of 139 for five off 16 overs — Alleyne outlined the way in which he aims to construct a team that is more than the sum of its parts.

"I'm not a dictator," he said. "I aim to listen and give everyone a chance to say what they want. It's important to have open discussion. I don't

want anyone whingeing, because they will have had the chance to put across their point of view."

In Russell and Tony Wright, he has two experienced former captains on whom to rely for advice, but ultimately the decisions will be his alone. He greets enquiries about who picks the team with an emphatic "I do" and articulates his thoughts on how Gloucestershire can build upon their championship victory on Saturday with care.

"We are not the kind of team who can afford to be lazy, we must play to our full potential all the time. We are a side where nearly everybody does more than one thing, where everybody has to contribute. It's so easy on days like this, — he gestures towards the covers in the middle — "to let things drift, but we must retain our focus."

Judgments made at this time of year often need revis-

ing come September, but the signs are encouraging. Lawrence's return has given morale a huge boost, Lynch is scoring runs freely — his undefeated 88 yesterday, made off 51 balls, was another spectacular though ultimately meaningless innings — and Shaun Young may turn out to be an inspired choice as overseas player.

"We've started like this before and then fallen away," Alleyne said. "The real test is keeping it going."

Lawrence, whose comeback was hampered by a sequence of muscle injuries, will not be considered for the final Benson and Hedges Cup group match against Kent today.

Gloucestershire are also without Jon Lewis, another seam bowler, who has an injury to his bowling hand.

Kamran Sheeraz, a seam bowler who did well against Somerset 2nd XI last week, has been brought in.

## Drug cheats turn to insulin for improved results

John Goodbody warns of sinister use being made of treatment for diabetes

THE scourge of drug-taking in British sport has returned, with fatal consequences in one instance.

A 21-year-old bodybuilder is being treated in a Hertfordshire hospital for severe brain damage after injecting himself with excessive amounts of insulin, the drug commonly used for the treatment of diabetes, but also described by one leading body-building magazine "as the most powerful anabolic hormone on the planet."

At an Essex inquest last Thursday, on a 36-year-old fitness trainer, Gary Kendall, Dr Malcolm Wier, the coroner, said Kendall's heart was a "time bomb" through anabolic steroid abuse. In February, he had collapsed at his home in Canvey Island, screaming abuse at paramedics and police after they had broken into his home to try to save him after a heart attack triggered by a dose of cocaine.

Dr Diana Cox, a pathologist, said that the use of anabolic steroids had made his heart grow in weight to 640 grammes, twice its normal size. Dr Cox said that the veins and the arteries carrying blood to the enlarged organ had remained normal in size but this also meant that the heart was seriously undernourished.

"An enlarged heart is a form of disease," she said. "It is progressive and there is no cure. The effect of the steroids built up over the months or years and he would have been at risk of a heart attack at any time."

Although anabolic steroids have been misused in sports such as athletics and American football, rugby union and cycling, for some time, insulin is a recent innovation.

Magazines and internet sites are promoting its use partly because insulin is not a prohibited substance and partly because there is no internationally-accepted test for its detection.

In a letter to the *British*

*Medical Journal*, Drs Sarah Elkin, Sharron Brady and Isabel Williams, who have been treating the unnamed bodybuilder at Hensel Hempstead Hospital, said athletes "have been looking for alternative drugs to help them put on muscle mass and burn off fat."

The doctors pointed out that insulin is a "P" category drug, which means it can be obtained without a prescription. "We were able to buy soluble insulin over the counter without prescription or identification. We are not diabetic."

They have called on the Department of Health to review its policy on the sale of insulin. The Royal Pharmaceutical Society recently warned its members to ensure that sales are made only for the treatment of diabetes.

Dr Rob Dawson, a GP in Tyne and Wear, has also written to the Home Office urging a change in the law. Dr Dawson, who is the medical officer for DISCUS (Drugs in Sport Clinic and User Support), set up by the North Durham Health Authority, said yesterday that "it was a serious health matter. I am aware of one traffic accident already caused by the condition of hypoglycaemia."

This occurs when there is abnormally low blood sugar, either because the individual has taken too much insulin or because he has taken insufficient carbohydrate.

Michael Verroken, head of the UK Sports Council's drugs unit, said the organisation, which spends about £1 million of taxpayers' money a year on drug education and detection, "utterly deplored the misuse of a medicine in this way."

Those who misuse insulin believe it will help to drive the amino acids into the muscle cells, helping them recover more quickly from intensive exercise and allowing muscles to grow faster.

### SPEEDWAY

## Poole strike back to avenge home defeat

By TONY HOARE

THE Elite League shows no sign of settling down from a topsy-turvy start to the season, with a series of shock results unsettling the reputations of the favourites. For example, Bradford travelled to Poole on Wednesday and demolished the Dorset team, securing the match with four heats left.

The 53-37 defeat stunned a Poole side whose promoter had been making bold claims about winning the Elite League just a fortnight earlier.

Things did not improve for Poole at Belle Vue, who coasted to a 61-29 victory against the Pirates, who could offer no resistance to the Manchester club's powerful top quartet.

Then matters took another twist. Poole travelled across the Pennines on Saturday and struck back against the Bradford side that had embarrassed them three days earlier, snatching a 45-44 victory.

The Yorkshire club has, historically, been near invincible around the banked oval track but travelled poorly. This year they signed three small-track experts for away

matches but the evidence so far suggests they should be worrying about their home displays for the defeat on Saturday was the second in three Elite League matches at Odsal.

Their victory at Poole was helped by some brilliant overtaking but at home they were second best to the Pirates at the starting gate.

"It was all about gating," the Bradford promoter, Allan Ham said. "It was a very disappointing night, nothing went right."

Coventry went down to their first home defeat of the season, against King's Lynn, whose guest rider, Carl Stonehewer, borrowed from Premier League Long Eaton for the night, made the difference, beating the home No 1, Greg Hancock, in the last heat.

Newcastle have become the first club to be punished in the tyre-tamping row. The Speedway Control Board has docked them a point after it was revealed that Glyn Taylor had used an illegal tyre in the away draw at Edinburgh in the Premier League Cup.

### POLO

## Minotaurs destroy Bears' myth

By JOHN WATSON

THE Royal Windsor Horse Show Cup was contested by the Minotaurs, who are put together by the Swiss player, Adriano Agosti, and Andrew Hodgkinson's Polo Bears. UBS at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, at the weekend. The Minotaurs won 5-3.

The Minotaurs' leading player, Cody Forsyth, of New Zealand, who plays off an eight handicap, took a while to settle into smooth partnership with his No 2, Anthony Fanshawe. Thus, during the first half of this rain-soaked match, the Polo Bears' Australian No 3, Glen Gilmore, well-supported by William Hine at

back and Tim Stakemire at No 2, led most of the attacks.

And, with Gilmore converting a couple of well-timed penalty shots during the second chukka, Polo Bears led 3½-2 at reading-in time (their half-goal advantage being attributed to their aggregating a team handicap of only 14 against the Minotaurs' 15).

Not only Forsyth and Fanshawe, but also their speedy No 1, Luke Tomlinson, who snapped in a couple of goals, played in harmony during the second half of an exciting encounter, all backing up and passing to one another

in copybook style. Almost every time the Polo Bears attacked in this second phase of the tussle, Forsyth was there to return the ball to their half of the ground, thus frustrating their attempts to regain the lead.

The tournament for the medium-goal Royal Windsor Cup, which has attracted 17 entries and is the next item on the Guards Club's programme, is to be played in four leagues. That competition starts on May 17.

MINOTAURS: 1, 1 Tomlinson (2), 2, 2 Fanshawe (14), 3, 3 Gilmore (15), 4, 4 Agosti (16), 5, 5 Forsyth (18). POLO BEARS: 1, 1 Hodgkinson (17), 2, 2 Stakemire (14), 3, 3 Gilmore (16), 4, 4 Hine (14).

### CYCLING

## Feat of Clay enlivens two races

By PETER BRYAN

JON CLAY proved a man for all seasons yesterday when he caused the time-trial upset of the year to win the British ten-mile championship near Barton-on-Humber in his first attempt for a national title against the clock.

It was a championship he did not know he had won until several hours later, unable to stay to the finish to see how he had fared against most of the expected big-hitters who had started up to two hours after the 33-year-old Leeds man.

Clay, off fifteenth from a full field of 120 dispatched at one-minute intervals, was in a hurry to get to Lincoln for the

start of the city's annual 102-mile grand prix road race.

When he left he knew that his time of 20min 42sec was fastest. But still to start were all the expected medal-winner, including Rob Hayles, the defending champion, and Sean Yates, a Tour de France time-trial winner in 1983 and now retired from international racing.

But neither Hayles nor Yates was fast enough, with the latter eventually finishing fourth in 21min 13sec. Hayles was two seconds slower.

The early starters had the better weather conditions; as the race progressed there were

near-gale force winds and rain increased the danger of skidding.

The Walker brothers — Harry and Brian — enjoyed a family celebration, taking silver and bronze medals in close order with times of 20min 54sec and 20min 55sec. Both rode machines based on Graeme Obree's original and controversial design.

And Clay? Another fine performance a few hours later at Lincoln, where he finished fourth in 21min 13sec. Tanner, who took over the lead from an absent Hayles in the season-long Premier Calendar competition.

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Golf is attracting the young, particularly since the rise of Tiger Woods. Morag Preston goes to golfing school

# Lessons for those who aim to be the youngest swingers in town

**Y**ears before they have chaired a board meeting or tasted their first gin and tonic, pint-sized youngsters are being persuaded to take to the golf course.

Encouraged by ambitious parents and guided by patient pros, the baby-faced brigade have abandoned their mud-encrusted football boots in favour of what is usually regarded as a rather sophisticated sport.

A group of nervous juniors, aged between five and eight, arrived at Foxhills in Surrey last Sunday afternoon for the first of their four weekly lessons at the country club, of which the football pundit Gary Lineker is a member.

Sore-eyed from swimming and sweaty from one of the many tennis courts, eight sunburnt youngsters — known as the "Wee Wonders" — gathered at the shop before making their way to the all-weather driving range.

According to Marc Hayton, the marketing director, it makes "commercial sense" to introduce juniors.

Charles Lobb — known to his chums as "Door Knob" — was the first to turn up at the 400-acre club, with his anx-



ious-looking father in tow. Aged eight, and a dead ringer for Macaulay Culkin, Charles looked every bit the part, dressed in tartan trousers and a Foxhills sweatshirt.

His father, Ian, who is a club member and part-time player, bellowed: "Charles has not really taken an interest in many sports — particularly contact sports — but he loves his golf."

The boy now plays at least once a week.

Next to arrive was Alex Holland, Charles's school friend, who has taken lessons at Foxhills before. Attracting envious glances for his sweatshirt emblazoned with a tiger (they are all Tiger Woods wannabes), Alex announces that he has been putting in

some practice in his front garden at home. It turns out that four of the children go to the same school (Hall Grove in Bagshot, where Nick Faldo's son is a pupil). The school has a five-hole golf course, but these boys are still too young to use it.

"The earlier they learn the better," says Richard Summerscales, 28, a professional at Foxhills for the past 11 years, who did not take up golf until he was 15. "Even if they can't get the correct grip, they can make a good swing. Kids are great mimics, and are less inhibited at an early age."

Allowing for their short attention span, he devises catchy rhymes to keep the game simple, and limits his lessons to 45 minutes maxi-

mum. Describing how to grip a club, he refers to his hand as five sausages, and the other as a greedy dog that gobbles them up.

Summerscales says: "We try not to encourage parents to watch, because we want the kids to concentrate on us. You can tell the ones who are pushed to come — they stubbornly refuse to listen."

**H**e adds: "Children will learn quickly, but you have to keep it fun. They don't want to go to school at the weekend. Balance is the big thing — golf is not down to strength. If they are naturally talented, that will emerge almost immediately."

Club alignment, grip, ball

position, stance and posture are as much as the juniors can hope to learn over the four-week course. They attack the swing in their first two lessons, play a short game in their third, and practise putting during their fourth.

At a cost of £25, the sessions — which continue throughout the year, bar a few months in the winter — are almost three times oversubscribed.

"It all evolves around Tiger Woods," Summerscales says. "The same thing happened when Jack Nicklaus burst on the scene — youngsters recognise characters in the game."

There is usually a 37 split between girls and boys, but on this occasion eight-year-old Hayley Matthews is the only female. Bobbing gently at the knees, with her blonde ponytail in full swing, as she prepares to strike the ball, the promising left-hander has been playing since she was two.

"I play a lot in the summer," she says, "because it's nice and sunny and my dad takes me to the driving range. But I'm not allowed to play in the garden, so at home I just practise my grip."

"My mum had lessons, but she doesn't really like it." Jack Taylor, a seven-year-old prodigy who first picked up a club two years ago, prefers Foxhills to his back garden, because he keeps losing balls. None of his family plays golf, but one of his more recent Christmas presents was



Jack Taylor: child prodigy

## HOW TO GET STARTED

A JUNIOR might be daunted by a traditional club that has been in existence for years, so the Golf Foundation (01920 484044), set up to promote golf among four to 18-year-olds, subsidises 50 per cent of the cost of group lessons in 1,500 schools and colleges across the country. In association with local authorities, it also runs courses during school holidays.

For the past eight years, Foxhills has hosted an open

day to select four youngsters who would not otherwise be members, to be given four years' free membership, plus weekly tuition.

Morgan Palmer, 18, one of the top amateurs in the country, is a past scholarship winner. Now that an increasing number of girls is becoming involved in the game, Foxhills also runs female-only lessons taught by Diane Bernard, a tour professional.

## WHAT TO WEAR

WHEN Sylvester Stallone first played at Foxhills, the Hollywood actor-writer played with a junior putter and won his first game in a long while. Manufacturers such as Dunlop and Spalding are beginning to tap into the junior market, but still have some way to go. Cutting down a full-sized club is an alternative, but it

will affect the weight. Youngsters are advised to master all the shots with one club, before graduating to a full set. A brand new putter will cost about £12, shoes £29, a bag £49, a trolley £29. A bag with five clubs will cost about £89. To complete the image, Pooh Bear and Mini Mouse cover heads cost £13.50 each.

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The time to double a voluntarily bid contract is when the suits break poorly for declarer. The danger is that it may give him clues as to the lie of the cards and how the hand should be played. Frequently, in match play, the results are Four Spades doubled one off at one table and Four Spades two off undoubled at the other — flat board. It can be worse, as this example shows.

Dealer South Game all Match-pointed pairs

♠ QJ102

♥ Q742

♦ A8

♣ A87

♠ 973

♥ 3

♦ QJ87642

♣ 62

♠ A894

♥ K1098

♦ 10

♣ K1095

♠ K5

♥ A385

♦ K53

♣ QJ54

Contract: Four Hearts Doubled, by South. Lead: queen of diamonds

South opened One No-trump (12-14). North tried Two Clubs asking for majors, and raised South's Two Heart rebid to the Four Hearts. East greedily doubled — dangerous when North might have had a hand just short of a slam try.

Declarer won dummy's ace of diamonds and led the queen of hearts. This was covered by East and won with the ace. Declarer continued with the king of spades, which held, and another spade. East won and returned a spade. In dummy, declarer led a heart and finessed the eight. He now cashed the ace of hearts and played the queen of clubs. This lost to East but declarer made three spades, three hearts, two diamonds and two clubs for his contract.

The "safety play" of the eight of hearts would have been risky without the double

because West might win and give East a diamond ruff. Then East would exit with his last spade and later win the king of clubs to defeat the contract. It would have done East no good to split his heart honours because South would continue to draw trumps, losing just one spade, one heart and one club.

Without the double it is likely that declarer would have played a low heart from dummy at trick two, hoping to find East with the king singleton or doubleton for a real bonus.

□ Congratulations to my reader, Edwin Bigwood, who is 100 years old today.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WORD WATCH

By Philip Howard

### TAPPEN

- a. Norwegian gruel
- b. A bear plug
- c. A poltergeist

### TREY

- a. A brown-and-white pony
- b. A three
- c. To tremble

### UTRUM

- a. A writ
- b. A small cymbal
- c. Coarse drags of rum

### TINTO

- a. A parrot
- b. A half-caste
- c. Red wine

Answers on page 43

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### Brinkmanship

With one game to go in Garry Kasparov's clash against IBM's Deep Blue in New York, the score is still level. Try as he might, Kasparov could not force a victory in the fifth game.

White: Garry Kasparov

Black: Deep Blue

New York, May 1997

King's Indian Attack

1 Nf3 d5

2 g3 Bg4

3 Bg2 Nd7

4 Nc3 Qc7

5 Bc2 Bb7

6 Qd3 e6

7 e4 Ne5

8 Bg2 dxe4

9 Bxe4 Nf6

10 Bg2 h5

11 Ne2 Qc7

12 Qc2 Bc7

13 c3 Ng6

14 h4 e5

15 Nf4 exd4

16 Nf3 Nxd4

17 Nxe4 Ng4

18 Bg5 Rxe8

19 0-0-0 Kd8

20 Qc2 Kc8

21 Kd1 Bg5

22 h5 Nf6

23 Rh1 c5

24 Nf5 Rd1+

25 Rxd1 Nd4

26 Qe4 Nf6

27 Re1 Nf6

28 Qc2 Qg6

29 c4 h5

30 Qe6 Ng6

31 b3 Nf2

32 Rf6 Kc7

33 Rg6 Rd7

34 Nh4 Nf8

35 Bc5 Nf6

36 Rf6 Rf8

37 c5 Rf7

38 Rg6 Rd7

39 Nf5 Nf4

40 Ng7 Rd1+

41 Kc2 Rd2+

42 Kc1 Rxa2

43 Nh5 Nd2

44 Nf4 Nxb3+

45 Kd1 Rc2

46 Rf6 c4

47 Re3 Kb5

48 g6 Kxb5

49 g7 Kb4

Draw agreed

Diagram of final position



In the final position Kasparov can make a new queen with 50 g8/Q, but then Black has a draw by perpetual check with 50... Rd1+ 51 Kc2 Rd2+ 52 Kb1 Rd1+ etc.

### England leads

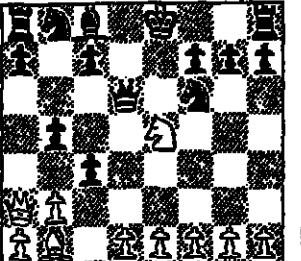
After five rounds of the European team championship at Pula, Croatia, England's men lead with 13½ points out of a possible 20, narrowly ahead of Croatia, Armenia, Russia and Hungary. In the women's event, England's 2-0 win against Hungary has pushed the team into second place behind Georgia but ahead of Greece, Hungary, Armenia, Russia and Germany.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Torre — Ed. Lasker, Chicago 1926. In this curious opening position the unusual juxtaposition of the queens gives Black the opportunity for a powerful tactic. Can you see it?



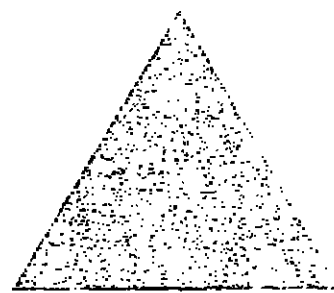
Solution on page 43



Charles Lobb, looking the part, is the first to arrive at the course as part of a youth movement that is taking a different sporting direction



It's a game of two halves.



Why stop at two?



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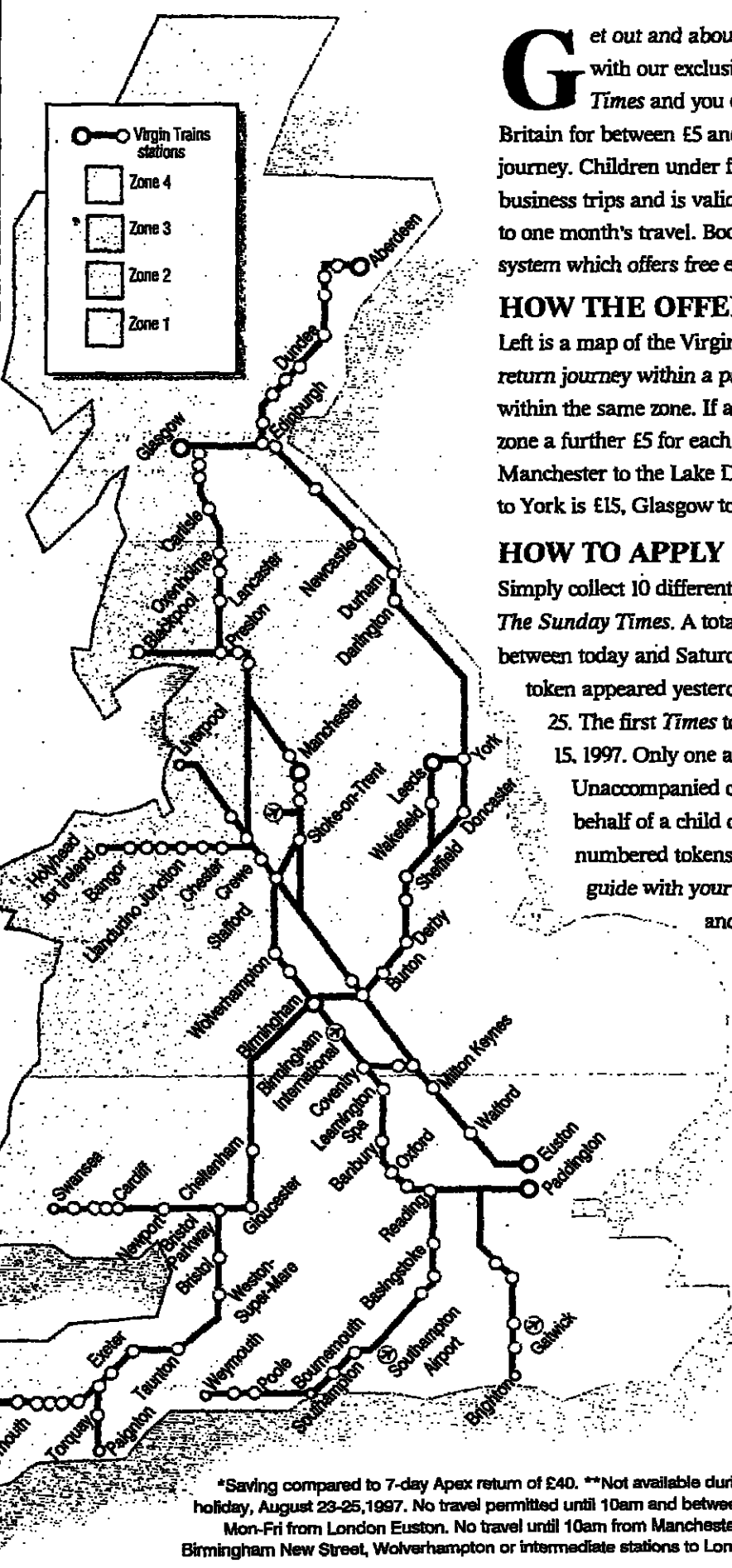
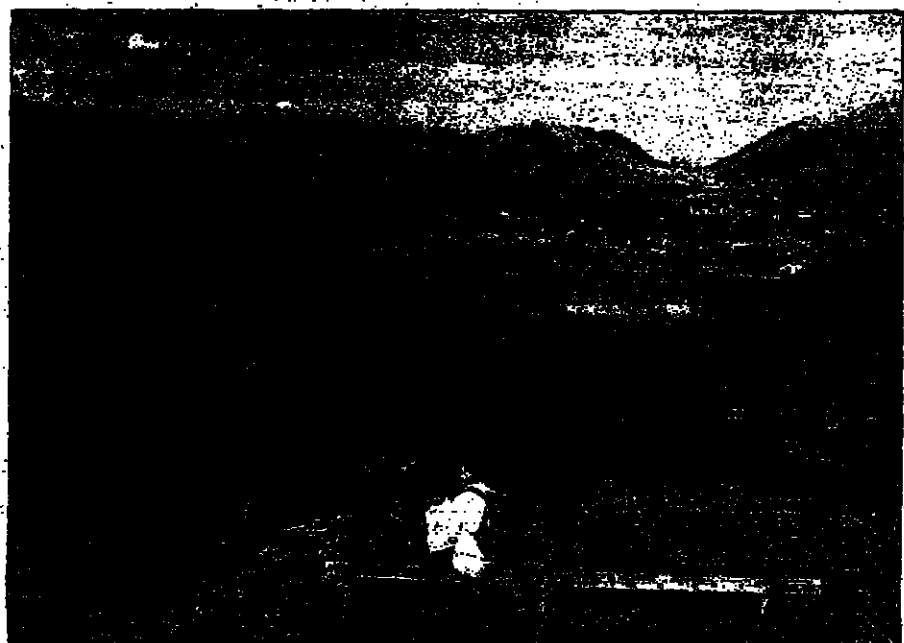
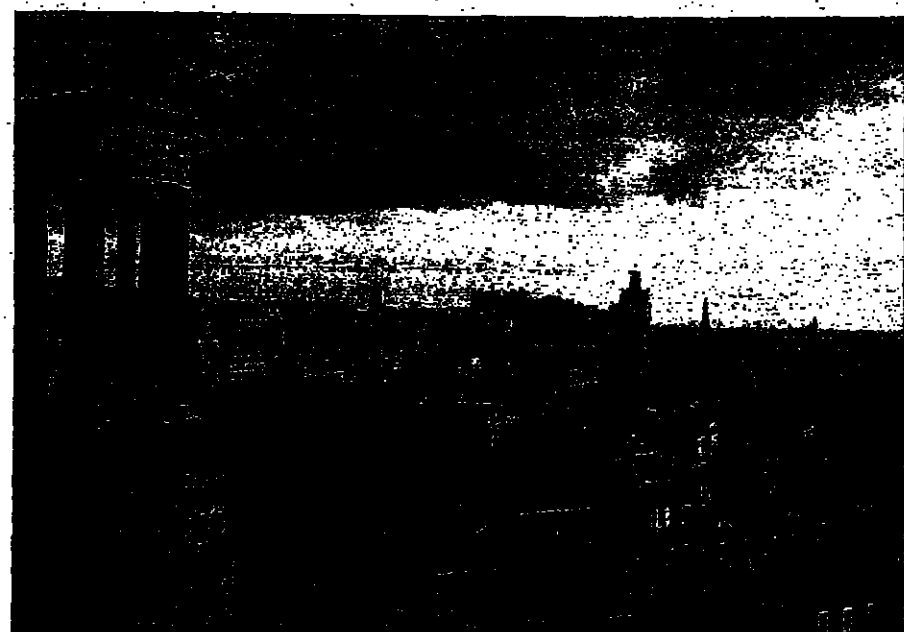
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73.20	Screen Eng	107-1	42	28		24.50	Dea American	282-1				24.50	Murray Sci	2214-1	22	11		161.00	SET Group	2214-1			
247.00	Smith, Inc.	709-1	3	27	162	11,520	Edinburgh II	305-1	12	33	32.4	1.98	Murray Sci	2750-1	50	33		161.00	SET Group	2214-1			
234.00	Smith-Sutton	691-1	12	27	162	11,520	Edinburgh II	305-1	12	33	32.4	1.98	Murray Sci	2750-1	50	33		161.00	SET Group	2214-1			
73.20	Smith-Sutton	691-1	12	27	162	11,520	Edinburgh II	305-1	12	33	32.4	1.98	Murray Sci	2750-1	50	33		161.00	SET Group	2214-1			
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73.20	Smith-Sutton	691-1	12	27	162	11,520	Edinburgh II	305-1	12	33	32.4	1.98	Murray Sci	2750-1	50	33		161.00	SET Group	2214-1			
73.20	Smith-Sutton	691-1	12	27	162	11,520	Edinburgh II	305-1	12	33	32.4	1.98	Murray Sci	2750-1	50	33		161.00	SET Group	2214-1			

1153 Adams	125	78	176	86
1154 Alford Ocean	196	51	54	84
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1198 Alford Ocean	196	51	54	84
1199 Alford Ocean	196	51	54	84
1200 Alford Ocean	196	51	54	84

## FOOD MANUFACTURERS

45031 All Food	547	+154	22	80
134 All Foods & Hops	10	0	0	0
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1001 All Foods & Hops	10	0	0	0
1002 All Foods & Hops	10	0	0	0
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# OFT forces lender to alter policy on penalties

By GAVIN LAMSDEN

CITY Mortgage Corporation, the US firm that specialises in lending to people on low incomes with poor credit ratings, has bowed to pressure from the Office of Fair Trading and is to stop levying excessively high penalties when loans are ended early.

The company has told the OFT that it will abandon its use of rule 78 from August 1. This rule, which was originally designed for short-term unsecured loans, has been exploited by several mortgage lenders when calculating redemption penalties.

CMC has been known to charge borrowers of £30,000 a total of £42,000 for leaving the loan in the first year. It said that it would probably replace

this with a penalty of six months' interest.

CMC's move follows a warning in February from John Bridgeman, Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading, to 50 lenders and brokers that he would revoke their credit licences if they continued to mislead borrowers. CMC, the largest lender in what is known as the subprime market, was widely believed to have been the focus of his attention.

In addition to rule 78, Mr Bridgeman was concerned about the high rates of undisclosed commission paid to brokers and the use of dual interest rates by lenders. These can double the amount borrowers have to pay if they default by just one day. CMC would not comment on whether it would change these provisions.

However, David Milton, a solicitor acting on behalf of the CMC Victims Association, said that the move would not stop legal proceedings against the company if it was not retrospective. He also condemned the company's power to increase the difference between its concessionary and standard rates.

Although it has only 30,000 borrowers, CMC has started 1,212 court hearings against defaulters in the past two years alone. Repossessions have totalled 154, although CMC is waiting to sell a further 108 homes it has seized. Despite this record, the company is still an approved lender on the Government's right-to-buy scheme, which allows council tenants to buy their homes.



Bridgeman: warning letter

## Ban on beef fails to slow food exports

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

BRITISH food and drink exports grew to more than £10 billion last year in spite of the ban on selling beef abroad.

Food From Britain, the export marketing consultancy, said that a 1 per cent growth in overseas sales to £10.1 billion during 1996 meant that Britain has retained its sixth place in the international exporters league. It estimates that British food and drink exports have doubled in the past ten years.

Exports to Japan rose 13 per cent, driven by the demand for British pork, prepared cereals and drinks. Germany, one of the country's most worried about BSE, increased its overall imports of British food and drink by 11 per cent while the US dramatically increased its imports of British cheese and beer, leading to a 9 per cent overall increase in food and drink imports.

France remains the largest importer of British food and drink, although its imports fell 2 per cent last year because of the beef ban.

Exports of British cakes, drinks and beer drove much of last year's growth. Food from Britain said. Last year's figures reflect nine months of the beef ban imposed on March 20, 1996. In 1995, beef exports totalled £600 million.

## Booksellers urged to use the Internet

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

TRADITIONAL booksellers must put more effort into selling on the Internet if they are to fight off the threats posed by the move into book retailing by supermarkets and by consumers' growing preference for videos, computer games and music, according to a report out today.

Corporate Intelligence on Retailing, the consultancy, says supermarkets now control 6 per cent of the book market, equal to £100 million in sales. Moreover, expenditure on books fell 4 per cent last year at the same time as spending on music, videos, computer games and other software rose 10.4 per cent.

Specialist booksellers who have tried introducing price promotions, larger ranges, in-store cafes and reading rooms, have not succeeded in reversing the trend, but Internet booksellers in the US have enjoyed huge success.

The report suggests that books are far better suited to Internet retailing than other products. There is no need to touch or try them on while the Internet's search facilities can help customers seeking a particular book. In the US, Amazon Books has sales of more than \$15 million in two years. In the UK, the Internet Bookshop, founded in 1994, is the only Internet-only book retailer. Sales are £568,000 but it still incurs losses.

## Tight Budget and re-entry into the ERM may follow an independent Bank of England

# Is Labour aiming for an economic triple whammy?



ROGER BOOTLE

Labour governments have been dogged by sterling crises which rocked them to their foundations — in 1931, 1949, 1967, and 1976. Labour now seems to be faced with the opposite problem, namely a strong pound, but it carries powerful echoes of the past. How can Gordon Brown prevent this Government from foundering on the rock of excessively strong sterling?

The orthodox answer is that he must raise taxes in the coming Budget. Even with effective control ceded to the Bank of England, this should bring about lower interest rates, albeit only lower than they would otherwise have been. I support this case and urge Mr Brown to introduce the most fiscally tight Budget he dares. But there is a potentially serious problem. Exchange rates are not easily forecastable or controllable. The reason is that currency operators are dominated by expectations for the future and these are highly volatile. If a policy change designed to weaken the currency is interpreted as carrying other information about the future that can be taken to favour the currency, then it may rise. This is exactly what happened when exchange controls were abolished in 1979.

It is a real danger with the tight Budget strategy. Consider the fears that have haunted investors over the years about the UK.

Even though our performance since we left the ERM in 1992 has been extremely good, investors have been nervous that these gains could be thrown away, particularly under Labour. That is the main reason why they have demanded much higher interest rates on sterling debt than on international equivalents.

Now imagine the reaction of these same sceptical investors to Labour's first Budget. They have recently seen Mr Brown give up control of interest rates. Now they see him raise taxes, not to spend on Labour's pet projects, but rather to reduce borrowing, thereby following the dictates of sound finance and redressing the imbalance in the economy. Meanwhile, he pledges to maintain tight control of public spending and to rely on the radical reform of the welfare state which Labour is planning to release resources from the social security budget to put more money into education. Moreover, in pointed contrast to the situation in most of Britain's competitors, these plans will be pushed through by an extremely powerful Government, unfettered by looming elections,

small majorities, doubtful coalitions, or the separation of powers.

Well, what would you do. Sell the pound or buy it? There has to be a significant chance that confidence in Britain would be boosted so much that the pound rose. In that case, the squeeze on our manufacturers and exporters would intensify, threatening another currency-induced economic disaster for Labour in a year or two.

What is the answer? It is to talk the pound down. Such a policy may already have begun with the Governor of the Bank referring to the level of sterling as "uncomfortable" and

the Chancellor saying he favoured a "stable and competitive pound". But whether talk is effective depends on what lies behind it. There are countless examples of massive exchange-rate misalignments, which central banks and governments have been powerless to correct, not to mention Mr Lamont's attempts to keep the pound in the ERM by telling the markets that there was "not a scintilla of doubt" that we would remain in the system. A few days later, we were out.

But there is a key example of talk having a major effect. In 1990, the Treasury seemed to encourage the view that the pound would enter the ERM, but at a higher rate than the one ruling in the markets. It worked. Sterling rose and was then put in at the rate of DM2.95. A similar game could be played now. Last week's story that a Labour source had let it slip that the Government may seek to take sterling back into the ERM at a central rate of DM2.50, may or may not have substance. Whether the slip was intentional or not, Labour may well be drawn inexorably in this direction.

This is how it would work. The markets would be encouraged to believe that we would re-join the ERM under the currently prevailing wide fluctuation bands (15 per cent either side of the central rate), in contrast to the 6 per cent bands when we were last in the system. If we joined at a central rate of DM2.50, then the upper limit would be DM2.90, well above the current rate. By itself, therefore, there is no necessary reason why expectation of ERM re-entry should affect the prevailing market rate at all.

But what information would it convey to the markets? It would say that the upside on the currency was severely limited. At the upper limit to the band, the Bank of England, aided by other central banks, would intervene to sell pounds. Moreover, conscious of the currency constraint, the Bank might have to go softly in raising interest rates.

Most importantly, the Government would have given a clear signal of the exchange rate at which Britain might eventually join EMU, namely DM2.50. If the market took this prospect at all seriously, and frankly it should, then it would have the effect of shifting the current market rate down towards the DM2.50 level. Last week, the markets were shocked by the new Government's boldness. But was that merely stage one? Is Labour planning a triple whammy — Bank independence, a tight Budget and re-entry into the ERM?

THE TIMES

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See page 39 for details.

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CHANGING TIMES

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## CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND	
US dollar	1.6193 (+0.0013)
German mark	2.7421 (-0.0543)
Exchange index	98.0 (-1.7)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share	2860.3 (+52.9)
FTSE 100	4630.9 (+175.3)
New York Dow Jones	7169.54 (+98.34)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge	19802.78 (+288.03)







# Degradation, death, destruction: such fun

Definitely not a good week-end for culture, I'm afraid. Nobody turned up to see the Bolshoi dance, the Venice Opera House stood in smouldering ruins and the new, big-budget drama from the BBC, "The House of the Dead", suffered from a disaster for culture vultures then, but for so-called philistines it proved something of a triumph.

Last night's *Dancing for Dollars* (Channel 4) was a special delight, suffering from none of the drawbacks that normally afflict ballet documentaries, such as, er, ballet. This — to embrace the vernacular — was the story of a cultural cock-up, how the Bolshoi Ballet went to Las Vegas and discovered that nobody wanted to see them. It was almost as much fun as *The House*, the wickedly intrusive series about the Royal Opera House.

"We sold 100 tickets today," fumed Ed Martin, a man surely destined to walk away with

the prize for the world's most unlikely ballet impresario. Only a handful of delicious minutes earlier he had been all-American enthusiasm. "Everyone wants to see greatness — whether it's Super Bowl, the Olympics or ballet." A loyal band of investors from deepest, darkest Oklahoma were right behind him, to the tune of \$1.8 million. They didn't know much about ballet but they had seen a couple of great ice-skating shows. "If it was anything like that we thought we would surely enjoy it," said one elderly woman who gamely pitched up to watch her savings disappear in a flurry of furious subtitles.

"Where are the instruments?" "Where is the orchestra pit?" "Where is the set?" asked a succession of cross-looking Russians. Meanwhile, back in the booking office, Martin was already praying for a miracle. "If I don't pay them, the little shits will

not perform in Los Angeles." Opinion was split as to what precisely the problem was. As archive footage of earlier sell-out successes compounded the damage, the managing director of the Bolshoi blamed the decadence of Las Vegas: "Sitting down all day, pressing buttons — that's not culture, it's degradation," Martin, by contrast, was fast coming to the conclusion that the American public were far more discerning than even he had given them credit for. They knew the Bolshoi was not what it had been. "People believe this is the bullshit Bolshoi, not the real deal."

The local stage manager was, diplomatically, somewhere in between. "We had no class before, we've got a little bit now." His recipe for commercial success? "If there was a nude ballet, we wouldn't have a theatre big enough." Hold that thought, be-

## REVIEW



Matthew Bond

cause somehow it leads us to Jonathan Creek (BBC1, Saturday). It took up where *Crime Traveller* left off: it's possible that the respective heroines even share the same mansion block, as an off-beat drama considered sufficiently undemanding to get 11 million or so of us through Saturday night. But unlike its predecessor, it had a certainty of purpose and a sureness of execution that means, in

the looking-glass world of television ratings, it probably won't. So, as insurance, the producers made this feature-length, opening episode rather rude. The fact that I thought it was also rather good is, of course, entirely unrelated.

The victim it was Saturday night, there had to be a victim was Hedley Shale (Colin Baker), an artist who conveniently specialised in the female nude, which meant the production could be littered with eye-catching canvases and glamorous models. Someone had shot him and if I tell you that the woman who did it wore only a silk blouse and a revolver that rather captures the hubristic style of Marcus Mortimer's direction. A kiss was not a greeting unless it was accompanied by a fondled bosom, a revolver not a revolver unless it was fired by toes attached to a very, very long pair of legs.

Now, all this enjoyable but gratuitous titillation may have

been to make up for the essentially untitillating nature of our central couple (it was Saturday night, there had to be a central couple). Caroline Quentin and Alan Davies may be many things but conventionally sexy they are not, and for some time it looked like we might get through an enjoyable whodunit without any of that unresolved sexual tension stuff at all. But then David Renwick's otherwise-inspired typewriter ran away with him and, before we knew it, our couple were enjoying a significant moment over the levitation board.

With two comedians in the central roles, the producers wisely packed the cast with established character actors: Baker who despite his early exit managed to regenerate himself in time for last night's instalment of *The Knack*, Sheila Gish as his magnificently fearsome wife and Anthony Head as a

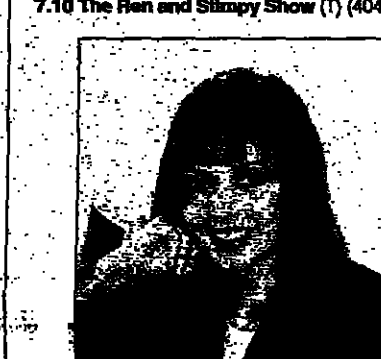
lascivious, bosom-fondling magician. But Quentin and Davies more than held their own in such company, with Davies in particular turning in a nicely understated performance as the trick-designing, windmill-dwelling Clink. Helped by Julian Stewart Lind-Saunders' *Danse Macabre*, a promising start.

Until last night, my sum total of knowledge about *La Fenice*, Venice, was that it was burnt down last year, possibly by the Mafia. The remainder for about 23 minutes of the distinctly unrevealing *The Works: A Death in Venice* (BBC2), when the building contractors — allegedly anxious to avoid fines for late completion — were added to the list of suspects. What else? A violinist played hauntingly amid the no-longer smouldering ruins — but we philistines knew that was going to happen.

- 6.00am Business Breakfast** (48183)  
**7.00am BBC Breakfast News** (1) (36251)  
**9.00am Breakfast News Extra** (1) (313378)  
**9.20am Style Challenge** (867783)  
**9.45am Kibitz** (792254)  
**10.30am Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (88541)  
**11.00am News** (1) and weather (777338)  
**11.05am The Great Escape Magazine** focusing on the real-life experiences of holiday-makers (7130386)  
**11.35am Change That from Glasgow** (634176)  
**12.00am News** (1) and weather (830057)  
**12.05pm Call My Bluff** (8048763)  
**12.35pm Going for a Song** A new series of the antiques panel game (8489763)  
**1.00am News** (1) and weather (84638)  
**1.30am Regional News** (8672376)  
**1.40am The Weather Show** (8692763)  
**1.45am Neighbours** (1) (40812305)  
**2.10am Quinny** (861367)  
**2.55am Through the Keyhole** with Paul Rose and Lorraine Chase (8310560)  
**3.20am Stalker on Style** Recreates Victorian interior design (8454831)  
**3.30am Playdays** (8278331) 3.50am *Monter Cafe* (874725) 4.05am *The New York Best Show* (863473) 4.10am *Casper* (4157015) 4.35am *50/50* (852888) 4.50am *Newsround* (1) (864657) 5.10am *Blue Peter* (1) (832588)  
**5.35am Neighbours** (1) (203855)  
**6.00am News** (1) and weather (285)  
**6.30am Regional News** (367)  
**7.00am Auntie's TV Favourites** Giff Rhys Jones discusses his career, Jimmy Hill looks forward to the FA Cup Final, Tony Blackburn pays homage to *Hi-Fi-Hit*, a visit with Sir Jimmy Savile (1) (8580)  
**7.30am Here and Now** Investigation into the unacceptable level of violence faced by nursing staff in hospital accidents and emergency departments, and a profile of Britain's only remaining lighthouse keeper as he prepares to leave his post, once and for all (1) (251)  
**8.00am EastEnders** Bianca is shocked when she pays Joe a visit and Grant tells Lorraine of his plans to play happy families (1) (2580)  
**8.30am Only Fools and Horses** One of Del's old flames turns up out of the blue. Will the flames of love reignite as Will Rodney and Grandad exorcise any passion? (1) (1015)  
**9.00am News** (1) and weather (2657)  
**9.30am Pinocchio** Water Torture Michael Robinson asks who is to blame for the water crisis and challenges those who run the industry to defend their record (1) (424580)  
**10.10am Alive** (1992) with Ethan Hawke and Vincent Spano. A grim, fact-based drama about a group of South American POWs who survive a plane crash in the Andes and endure unspeakable hardships when the search party is called off. Directed by Frank Marshall (1992) (852183)  
**12.10am Without Leave** (1992) Craig McLachlan stars as a soldier who goes AWOL during the Second World War. Directed by John Hodge (1992) (828631)  
**1.15am Weather** (4646110)

**VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes**  
 The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to programme your video recorder with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ ("V"), Pluscode ("P") and Video Programme are trademarks of Remco Development Ltd.

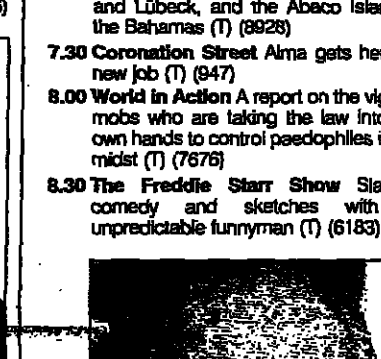
- 6.00am Open University: Images of Education** (8482831) 6.45am *Mathematical Aspects* (1) (848383)  
**6.50am Play and the Social World** (1) (8622251) 7.15am *News* (854541) 7.30am *Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles* (1) (807883) 7.55am *Bliss* Peter (1) (118251) 8.00am *Bump* (3175522) 8.25am *Open a Door* (1) (838102) 8.35am *Raccoons* (1) (827725) 8.50am *TVE* (97299) 9.30am *Le Paris* (751828) 9.45am *Watch Out* (7504183) 10.00am *Teletubbies* (21831) 10.30am *Go for It* (4788367) 10.50am *Look and Read Special* (4771831) 11.10am *Zig Zag* (868722) 11.30am *Ghostwriter* (2102) 12.00am *Teletubbies* (21831)  
**12.30pm Working Lunch** (37305)  
**1.00am History File** (2237163) 1.25am *Landmarks* (70520251) 1.45am *Storyline* (86700725) 2.00am *Bump* (3005522) 2.05am *Open a Door* (3009429) 2.10am *Alles Smith and Jones* (734550) 3.00am *News* (1) (848587) 3.15am *The Phil Silvers Show* (7185204) 3.30am *Blockbusters* (5514980) 4.25am *Ready, Steady, Cook* (5524367)  
**4.55am Esther: Meeting the Queen Mother** Anecdotes (141283) 5.30am *Today's the Day* (744)  
**6.00am The Simpsons** (1) (476134)  
**6.25am Space Precinct** (1) (1) (884857)  
**7.10am The Ben and Stimpy Show** (1) (404388)



Carol Vorderman (7.30pm)

- 7.30am Competitors Don't Bite: The Beginner's Guide A** A new six-part series presented by Carol Vorderman. Tonight, Anne McKeivell puts a home decorating software package through its paces (1) (853)  
**8.00pm Top Gear** MotorSport The Prodrive's new Subaru rally car, motorcycle world championship in Luxembourg and the search for Britain's rising stars in junior single-seater formula racing (1) (8562)  
**8.30am The Antiques Show** Monty Don joins a group of antique buyers in Paris, a guide to buying at auction, teenage collectors with a passion for antiques (1) (8687)  
**9.00am Till Death Us Do Part** (1) (8909)  
**9.30am Tales from the Riverbank** Goo fishing with Geoffrey Palmer (17541)  
**10.00am Game On Comedy series** (78184)  
**10.28am Video-Nation Shorts** (175783)  
**10.30am Newsnight** (1) (358557)  
**11.15am Ruby A new, twice-weekly chat show with Ruby Wax** (860015)  
**11.55am The Phil Silvers Show** (1) (153164)  
**12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: Crustaceans** In *Crustaceans* (1) (848383) 1.30am *Piccadilly* (86337) 2.00am *Nightclub TV: Cats' Eyes* (85431) 4.00am *BBC Focus: Italia 2000* (21418) 4.30am *Royal Institution Discovers* (23865) 5.30am *RCN Nursing Update* (16394)

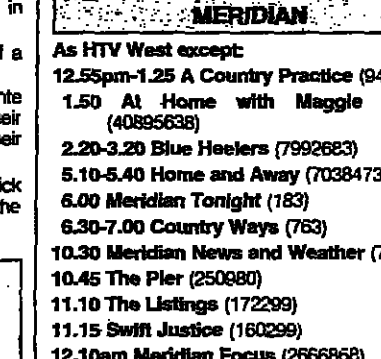
- 6.00am GMTV** (4786034)  
**9.25am Supermarket Sweep** (1) (1) (8685812)  
**9.55am Regional News** (3010947)  
**10.00am The Times, The Place** (25657)  
**10.30am This Morning** (8293218)  
**12.20pm Regional News** (1) (839541)  
**12.30am News** (1) and weather (8475560)  
**12.55am The Pulse** (8450251)  
**1.25am Home and Away** (1) (7054857)  
**1.50am Danielle Steel's Palomino** with Lee Horsley, Lindsay Forst and Eva Marie Saint. Romantic drama about a successful female photographer (3021638)  
**3.20am News** (1) (845947) 3.25am *Regional News* and weather (8484218)  
**3.30am Tots TV** (1) (871805) 3.40am *Caribou Kitchen* (733812) 3.50am *Cartoon Time* (733508) 4.00am *Scouty Doo* (5541034) 4.25am *The Famous Five* (1) (4147638) 4.50am *The Big Bang* (1) (1804522)  
**5.10am Sorted Magazine series** focusing on teenagers problems (1) (7038473)  
**5.40am News** (1) and weather (268183)  
**5.55am HTV Crime Stories** (788576)  
**6.00am Home and Away** (1) (713580)  
**6.25am HTV Weather** (825589)  
**6.30am The West Tonight** (1) (763)  
**7.00am Wish You Were Here?** Featuring Kenya, the medieval German town of Hamburg and Lübeck, and the Abaco Islands in the Bahamas (1) (8628)  
**7.30am Coronation Street** Anna gets herself a new job (1) (847)  
**8.00am World in Action** A report on the vigilante mobs who are taking the law into their own hands to control pedophiles in their midst (1) (7678)  
**8.30am The Freddie Starr Show** Slapstick comedy and sketches with the unpredictable funnyman (1) (8183)



Ethical dilemma for Robert (9.00pm)

- 9.00am Bramwell** Marshall learns his wife has breast cancer (1) (8505)  
**10.00am News** (1) and weather (11198)  
**10.30am Regional News** (1) (763305)  
**10.40am The West Story** A focus on local life (830385)  
**11.40am Hunter** The adventures a plainclothes detective and his female partner (1) (78522)  
**12.40am Empire City** (1991) with Michael Pare, Mary Mara and Beau Starr. Contemporary film noir about an unorthodox, streetwise detective who is paired with a new female partner to solve a homicide. Directed by Mark Roscoe (1991) (849787)  
**2.05am Mainly Men** (1) (488086)  
**2.35am Club Nation** (1) (7347394)  
**3.30am God's Gift** (1) (8167400)  
**4.35am World in Action** (1) (7292885)  
**5.00am Coronation Street** (1) (43023)  
**5.30am News** (16348)

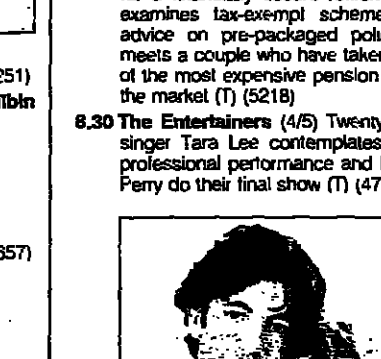
- As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm-1.25am A Country Practice** (8450251)  
**1.50am Blue Healers** (8815251)  
**2.50-3.20am Blue Healers** (7920289)  
**3.50am Cartoon Time** (733508)  
**5.10-5.40am Shortland Street** (7038473)  
**6.25-7.00am Central News** (934164)  
**10.40am Film: The Island** (31070831)  
**12.45am War of the Worlds** (423619)  
**1.45am Stand and Deliver** (425035)  
**2.45am Real Stories of the Highway Patrol** (8901874)  
**3.10am Film: The Last Hours** (6816771)  
**WESTCOUNTRY**  
**As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm Home and Away** (8450251)  
**1.25am High Road** (7376183)  
**1.58am Murder, She Wrote** (8823270)  
**2.50-3.20am Westcountry Update** (2702583)  
**5.10-5.40am Home and Away** (7038473)  
**6.00-7.00am Westcountry Live** (85862)  
**10.30am Westcountry News** (754657)  
**10.45am Tale of Three Farms** (793305)  
**11.15am Love at First Sight** (79218)  
**11.45am Prisoner: Cell Block H** (706247)  
**MERIDIAN**  
**As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm-1.25am A Country Practice** (8450251)  
**1.50am At Home with Maggie Philbin** (4085638)  
**2.20-3.20am Blue Healers** (7920289)  
**5.10-5.40am Home and Away** (7038473)  
**6.00am Meridian Tonight** (183)  
**6.30-7.00am Country Ways** (763)  
**10.30am Meridian News and Weather** (754657)  
**10.45am The Pler** (25080)  
**11.10am The Listings** (172299)  
**11.15am Swift Justice** (160299)  
**12.00am Meridian Focus** (266868)  
**5.00am Friescreen** (43022)  
**ANGELIA**  
**As HTV West except:**  
**12.55pm-1.25am A Country Practice** (8450251)  
**1.50am Blue Healers** (8815251)  
**2.50-3.20am Crawshaw: Paints Constable Country** (2702588)  
**3.50am Bugs Bunny Disney Cartoon** (733508)  
**5.10-5.40am Shortland Street** (7038473)  
**6.25-7.00am Anglia News** (834164)  
**10.40am Post-Election Political Debate** (830385)  
**11.40am Highlander** (785522)



Tim Dutton and Jennifer Ehle (9pm)

- 9.00am Melissa** (1/5) Alan Bleasdale's murder mystery about a correspondent who falls for a mysterious woman. With Jennifer Ehle, Tim Dutton and Adrian Dunbar. Continues tomorrow (1) (7457270)  
**10.25am Dark Sides** Aliens infiltrate the anti-Vietnam movement (1) (831454)  
**11.25am Cheers** Carla disapproves of Eddie's new skating partner (1) (100812)  
**11.55am NBA Raw** Playoff action (793876)  
**12.55am NYPD Blue** Simone investigates a bomber (1) (702195)  
**1.45-1.50am For Life** Following Carol Banks as she prepares to leave the Toronto police after 15 years service (1) (5240077)  
**2.50am My Learned Friend** (1943, b/w) Black comedy starring and directed by Will Hay. A former convict decides to murder all those responsible for his incarceration. With Mervyn Johns (1943) (531934)  
**4.10am Watching the Detectives** (1) (1) (551957) 5.10am *There Lived a Man Called Kocayav* (8031313) 5.20am *Backstage* (1) (9900348)

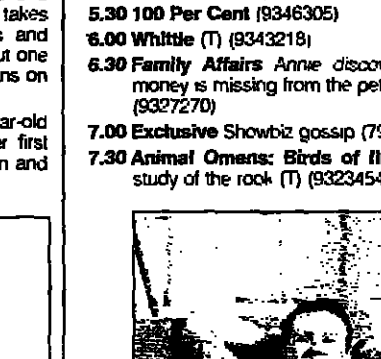
- 6.00am Sesame Street** (1) (31883) 7.00am *The Big Breakfast* (85889) 9.00am *Bewitched* (1) (1) (82937)  
**9.30am Schoology** Geography Junction 9.45am *Book Box* 10.00am *Stage Two Science* 10.15am *Schools at Work* 10.20am *Off the Walls* 10.40am *The English Programme* 11.05am *Encyclopedia Galactica* 11.15am *The Mix* 11.30am *Rai-A-Tal-Tal* 11.45am *Living and Growing* (796305)  
**12.00am Right to Reply** (1) (7) (95631)  
**12.30pm Light Lunch** (25299)  
**1.30am Man on a Tightrope** (1953) with Fredric March, Gloria Grahame and Tony Moore. Cold War drama about a circus owner in Eastern Europe determined to escape to the West with his troupe. Directed by Ella Kazan (1) (35812)  
**3.30am Collector's Lot** (1) (541) 4.00am *Fifteen-To-One* (1) (878) 4.30am *Countdown* (1) (860) 5.00am *Montel Williams* (1) (9034) 5.30am *Pet Rescue* (1) (812)  
**6.00am Hangin' with Mr Cooper** (1) (725)  
**6.30am Hollywood** Ruth regrets her hasty words (1) (305)  
**7.00am Channel Four News** (1) (626828)  
**7.50am Rhyme and Reason** A short season of poems relating to science (1) (824386)  
**8.00am Mrs Cohen's Money** Savings (5/8) Bernice Cohen looks at how to prepare for a financially secure retirement. She examines tax-exempt schemes, takes advice on pre-packaged policies and meets a couple who have taken out one of the most expensive pension plans on the market (1) (5218)  
**8.30am The Entertainers** (4/5) Twenty-year-old singer Tara Lee contemplates her first professional performance and Lynn and Perry do their final show (1) (4725)



Alan Bleasdale (9pm)

- 9.00am Melissa** (1/5) Alan Bleasdale's murder mystery about a correspondent who falls for a mysterious woman. With Jennifer Ehle, Tim Dutton and Adrian Dunbar. Continues tomorrow (1) (7457270)  
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**4.10am Watching the Detectives** (1) (1) (551957) 5.10am *There Lived a Man Called Kocayav* (8031313) 5.20am *Backstage* (1) (9900348)

- CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE**  
 Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No. 8 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videotext decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No. 8 are: 10.52075 GHz sound: 7.02 and 7.02 MHz.  
**6.00am 5 News Early** (889763)  
**7.30am Havalok** (544183) 8.00am *Adventures of the Bush Patrol* (8594305)  
**8.30am WideWorld** Examining Miniel, the unique French forerunner of the Internet, interactive systems and teleshopping (853676)  
**9.00am Espresso** (251928) 10.00am *Exclusive* (7101541) 10.30am *Attractions* (1) (8573612)  
**11.00am Leesa** (240812) 11.50am *Double Espresso* (3454102) 12.00am *The Good and the Beautiful* (1) (8564154) 12.30am *Family Affairs* (1) (7) (476183)  
**1.00am 5 News Update** (4998202) 1.05am *Sunset Beach* (1) (8653725) 2.00am *5's Company* (7175454)  
**3.30am Withering Heights** (1970) with Anna Calder-Marshall, Timothy Dalton, Pamela Brown and Harry Anderson. Handsome but hunched adaptation of Emily Brontë's tale of doomed love. Directed by Robert Fuest (1970) (880251)  
**5.30am 100 Per Cent** (8346305)  
**6.00am Whistle** (1) (9343219)  
**6.30am Family Affairs** Anne discovers some money is missing from the petty cash (1) (9327270)  
**7.00am Exclusive** Showbiz gossip (7962021)  
**7.30am Animal World: Birds of 100 Men** A study of the rock (1) (9323454)



Presenter Sandy Mitchell (6pm)

- 8.00am Hot Property** Sandy Mitchell guides a tour through the property market (1) (762229)  
**8.30am 5 News** (8617314)  
**9.00am Return of the Swamp Thing** (1989) with Louis Jordan, Heather Lockier and Dick Durock. Science fiction thriller about a mad genetic scientist and the half-man, half-vegetable that he creates. Directed by Jim Wynorski (1989) (2247299)  
**10.30am Bring Me the Head of Light** Entertainment Comedy improv show with Graham Norton (85641)  
**11.00am The Jack Docherty Show** Chat and comedy (859980)  
**11.40am We Know Where You Live** Comedy sketches and spoofs with Simon Pegg (157589)  
**12.10am Live and Dangerous** Through-the-night sports magazine presented by Dominik Diamond and Tish Andrus. Includes at least 20 minutes of the *Widow X-Games* (9137007)  
**4.40am Prisoner: Cell Block H** (1468481)  
**5.30am 100 Per Cent** (1) (2416665)

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

- SKY 1**  
**6.00am Morning Glory** (82829) 6.30am *Real Deal* (1992) 7.00am *Days of Our Lives* (80029) 7.30am *The Oprah Winfrey Show* (82741) 8.00am *General Hospital* (82741) 8.30am *Jeopardy!* (46164) 9.00am *Jeopardy!* (72859) 9.30am *Jeopardy!* (84788) 10.00am *Jeopardy!* (84788) 10.30am *Jeopardy!* (84788) 11.00am *Jeopardy!* (84788) 11.30am *Jeopardy!* (84788) 12.00am *Jeopardy!* (84788)  
**SKY 2**  
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**6.00am James Bond's** 007 *Licensed to Kill* (1989) (75812) 7.00am *Tender is the Night* (1989) (75812) 8.00am *The Godfather* (1972) (85838) 9.00am *The Godfather* (1972) (85838) 10.00am *The Godfather* (1972) (85838) 11.00am *The Godfather* (1972) (85838) 12.00am *The Godfather* (1972) (85838)  
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- EUROSPORT**  
**7.30am Mountain Bike** (80812) 8.30am *Cycling* (80812) 9.30am *Athletics* (80812) 11.00am *Swimming* (80812) 12.00am *Swimming* (80812)  
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# Clinton challenges Whitewater call to surrender notes

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE Whitewater affair flared into a public clash yesterday between President Clinton and Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, over disputed notes involving the investigation of Hillary Clinton.

Mr Starr claimed that the White House refusal to surrender notes of her conversations with its lawyers, on the ground of privilege, was impeding his investigation.

In a speech to newspaper editors in Mr Clinton's home state of Arkansas, Mr Starr declared: "Never in history has this kind of privilege been asserted in a federal criminal proceeding." Mr Starr's claim may be true in the strictest sense, but Richard Nixon did make much the same argument in vainly trying not to hand over his tapes - giving Whitewater an echo of Watergate.

Mr Clinton, in Barbados, said he was advised not to

surrender the notes because the issue was a "major constitutional question". It was "nonsense", for Mr Starr to claim that his investigation had been hindered, said Larry Davis, a White House counsel. Rather, Mr Starr had created the dispute by embarking on a "fishing expedition" for documents.

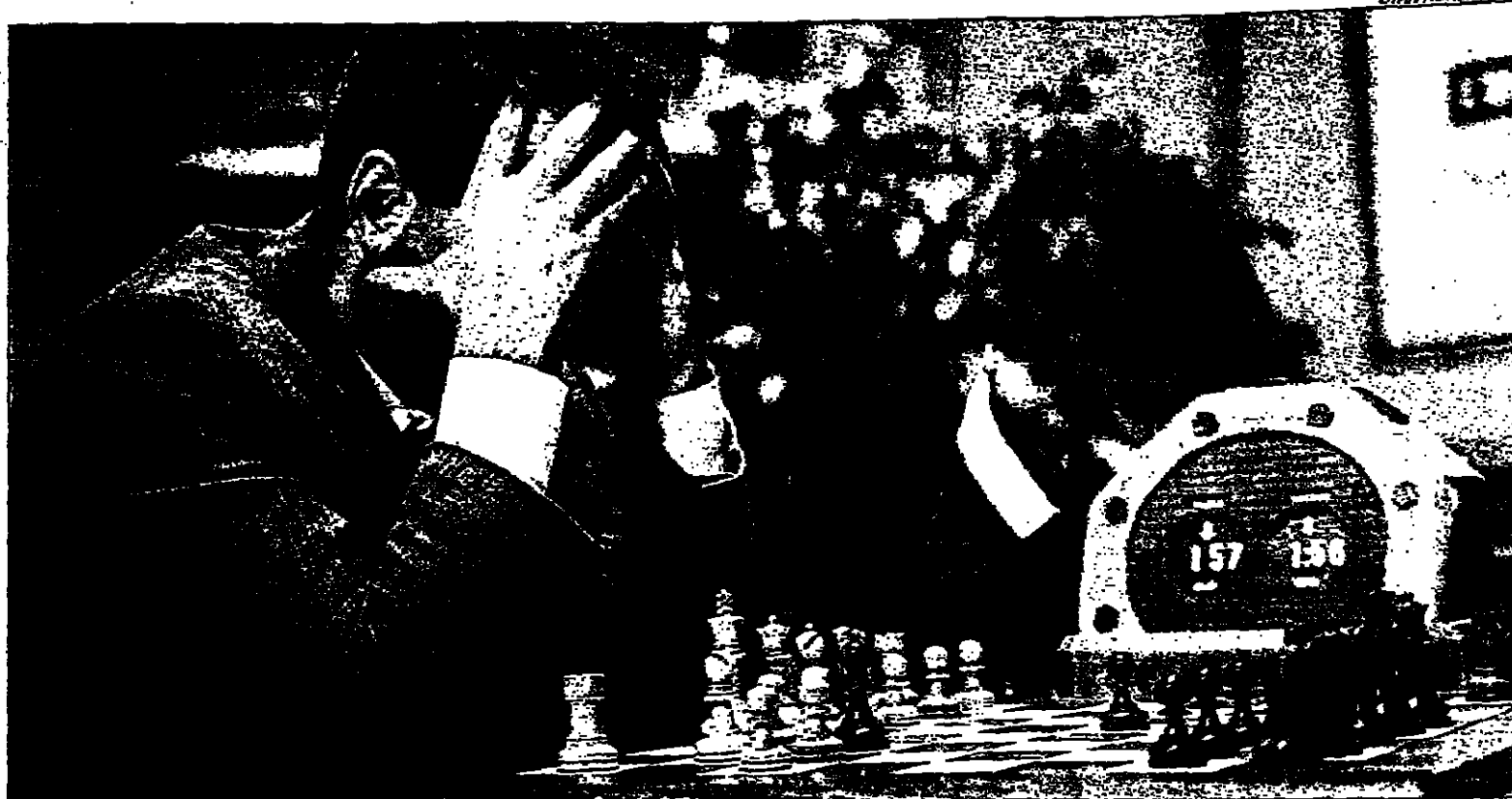
In recently unsealed court papers, Mr Starr said Mrs Clinton's testimony had changed over time, reinforcing speculation that Mr Starr may be trying to indict her for obstruction of justice.

Mr Starr is seeking two sets of lawyers' notes from meetings with Mrs Clinton. The first concerns her activities after the death by gunshot wound of Vincent Foster, deputy White House counsel. His death was ruled a suicide. The second deals with missing billing records, later found in the White House private quarters, from the Rose Law Firm

in Little Rock where Mrs Clinton and Foster had been colleagues.

Mr Starr argues that Mrs Clinton's discussions were not privileged because they were with government lawyers, not her private ones. An appeal court ruled in his favour, saying that to use government attorneys as a shield against producing information in a criminal investigation would be a gross abuse of public funds. The White House will appeal to the Supreme Court against the ruling today.

Washington is puzzling over Mr Starr's motive. The information he seeks was apparently covered by Mrs Clinton during her testimony to a Washington grand jury last year. It is unclear why he wants the information again unless, as some lawyers speculate, he failed to win an indictment from the grand jury and is trying with a second grand jury.



Garry Kasparov goes into battle for the honour of humanity in New York yesterday in the decisive game of his chess duel with the IBM computer Deep Blue (James Bone writes).

The world's greatest chess champion laboured under the disadvantage of playing black in the final encounter of the six-game match, with the score even at one win each and three draws. The match became a contest

## Kasparov makes his last stand

between the nimble, intuitive play of the Russian grandmaster and the brute force of his silicon rival, which can calculate 200 million positions a second. Kasparov beat an earlier version of Deep Blue in Philadelphia last year, but he speaks with awe about the latest machine. Chess

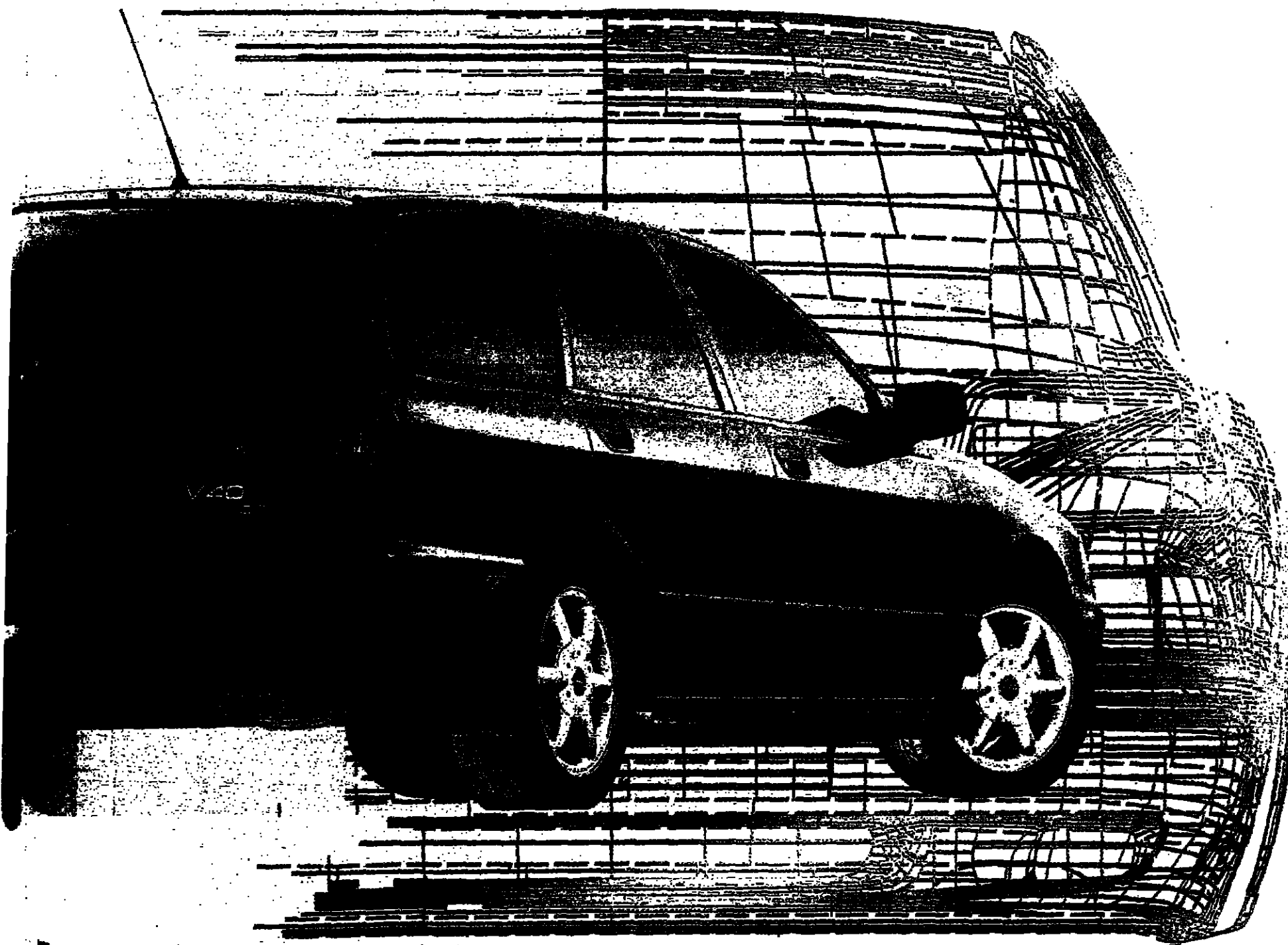
experts lament that the super-computer is squeezing the creativity of the game into an ever-smaller section of the middle game, and predict darkly that chess may one day no longer be considered difficult enough to play. Even at speeds far faster than Deep Blue, however, it

would still be impossible for a computer to calculate all the estimated 10<sup>120</sup> possible paths through a typical chess game.

The champion told a cheering crowd before the match: "I am not afraid to admit that I am afraid. It definitely goes beyond any chess computer in the world."

Chess report, page 37

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## Titanic's salvagers attacked

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE controversial effort to salvage the *Titanic* has been denounced by an international museum group for its mishandling of recovered artefacts.

Kevin Fewster, president of the International Congress of Maritime Museums, told *The New York Times* that items from the wreck lie "scattered across at least eight cities on both sides of the Atlantic".

He said RMS *Titanic*, the New York-based salvage company, had shown no commitment to "unifying the mass of dive data" although such work would require only two maritime experts and cost \$150,000 (£93,000) - a fraction of the \$20 million the firm has spent on the project. The museum association is opposing the largest American exhibition of *Titanic* artefacts until the company improves its preservation record.

The show, in the basement of a Memphis sports arena, presents some 300 objects, ranging from gold coins to a steward's jacket. About 4,000 items have been retrieved from the liner, which sank on its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York in 1912 with the loss of more than 1,500 lives.

RMS *Titanic* says that its top priority has been to conserve objects raised from the wreck and to share them with the public, but insists that it is also committed to providing data to scholars.

## Pentagon in moral combat

BY IAN BRODIE

THE American armed forces, struggling to cope with recent sex scandals and an influx of women recruits, will try to clarify its rules governing relationships within the forces.

At present the military frowns on what it calls fraternisation between those of differing rank. These rules, the Pentagon said yesterday, were written for combat situations where a relationship could complicate an officer's decision about sending someone into danger.

With the Cold War over, some argue that the rules are too rigid for a largely peaceable world. They are also confusing.

The army, for example, allows dating between officers and other ranks who are assigned to different units. Other branches of the services, however, prohibit any such close relationship and court-martials those involved.

The Air Force, the least forgiving service, faces damaging publicity over its pending court martial of the first woman to earn her pilot's wings to fly the B52, an eight-engined bomber.

The defendant, Lieutenant Kelly Flinn, is accused of adultery with a civilian who admits he lied to her that he was legally separated from his wife and getting a divorce. If found guilty, she could be imprisoned and dismissed from the service.

## Fiji seeks to reforge link to the Crown

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

TEN years after it became a republic, Fiji is negotiating for readmission to the Commonwealth, with its political leaders calling for the Queen to return as the island's constitutional monarch.

General Sitiveni Rabuka, who led the 1987 coup against the Crown that led to Fiji's expulsion, has had quiet talks in Luxembourg with senior Commonwealth officials and is likely to make a formal application to be laid before the Commonwealth heads of

government meeting in Edinburgh in October. His move is said to have delighted the Queen, the head of the Commonwealth, and the Prince of Wales has told diplomats that he welcomed it.

The 1987 coup was largely due to resentment in Fiji at the growing influence of the Indian population, who then made up almost half the population. A revolt supported by indigenous islanders overthrew the government and proclaimed a republic.

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## Bonn's springtime for euro is overshadowed by cloud of sceptics

There is no mistaking German glee about Tony Blair. For many months the Bonn line was that he would represent a welcome change, but only in tone, not in substance. Now the talk is of deals about to be clinched, not of mood music. It is clear that Helmut Kohl's office deliberately played down its real, very high expectations of a Labour Government, lest overt support from Bonn should backfire in the election campaign. Normally sober officials are throwing open their Rhine-facing windows and bursting into song, spring has sprung for the euro.

Ordinary Germans remain suspicious. That is beginning to worry the European Commission, which is sponsoring a rolling series of "European Weeks" throughout Germany. No expense is being spared to stamp out German scepticism. In Berlin last week the euro was accepted as the coin of the realm by more than 50 supermarkets, boutiques and restaurants. More than 1.3 million pseudo-euros were minted — with the Brandenburg Gate on the reverse — special cash tills were installed, while menus and price lists were posted in marks and euros. A McDonald's hamburger

### INSIDE

Roger Boyes

### GERMANY

with chips and ice cream cost four euros, or eight marks. After some initial excitement, Berliners became bored with the toy money and stuck to

German cash: by the end of the experimental week just over 500,000 euros were in circulation. Most, one suspects, will end up in the pockets of collectors.

How many more dress rehearsals will Germany need before it comes to accept the euro in place of the mark, token of prosperity and post-war stability?

In fact, Germany has already had one run-in with monetary union — the political merger of 22 German principalities and three free cities in 1871 was sealed by a common currency. Even then there was strong resistance — the minutes of the Bundesrat

debate in 1871 read like a blueprint for the present euro arguments. But unlike other attempts — the Latin currency union of 1865 and the Scandinavian union of 1872 — the unified German mark worked well (the coins were minted on French gold, paid as reparations by the loser of the Franco-Prussian War).

Bismarck's mark succeeded because political integration accompanied, or preceded, the monetary merger every step of the way. German politicians today draw a similar conclusion when they mutter darkly of Maastricht 3 and Maastricht 4 treaties, should Amsterdam produce

only meagre results on political integration.

Opinion polls record a stable sceptical constituency: between 55 per cent and 60 per cent of Germans declare against the euro. Will they ever come round? Zealots believe it is only a matter of time and propaganda: identifying the euro with success. Bert Vogts, the national football coach, is already doing his bit in advertising the new currency.

My impression is that the Government has overestimated its ability to swing popular opinion its way. Last week I attended a "Europe Week" event in the Hesse parlia-

ment. More than 300 editors of school newspapers peppered experts — a European Commission official, a Euro-deputy, the regional Minister for Europe — with unanswerable questions.

Why was the euro more important than jobs? How could monetary union prevent war on the Continent? Why wasn't Europe more democratic? Why was Turkey excluded from the European club? One boy had picked oranges in Greece for two weeks, then seen them thrown on a rubbish dump in the name of an absurd agri-

cultural policy. These youths will be first-time voters in the general election next year, and they will be hard-headed in their choices. A politician pleading for a delay in introducing the euro, and a youth job-creation scheme, would scoop up these votes.

The federal idealism of the Kohl generation has evaporated and the Chancellor has tailored his rhetoric. But he may have shifted too late. Increasingly, Germans insist on a pragmatic approach to the union: to young Germans, Herr Kohl's Europe seems to be looking backwards and federalists are visitors from a distant planet.

## Voters direct their anger at politics of an arrogant elite

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

WITH just a fortnight to go before French voters begin electing a new parliament, one institution has become a key focus for popular anger at the country's aloof, technocratic political elite.

The Ecole Nationale d'Administration — better known as ENA, the post-graduate training-ground which produces so many of the country's top politicians, business leaders and civil servants — is once again under attack as a scapegoat for France's ills and a powerful symbol of widespread disenchantment with the political process.

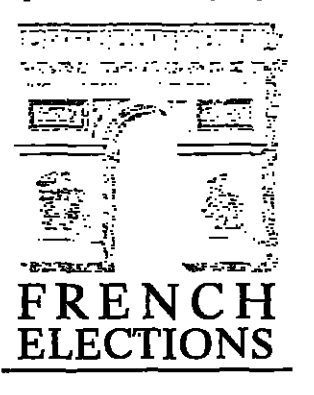
Since the election campaign began, numerous candidates have opened fire on ENA, its elitism and *les énarques*, its hugely influential products. In Paris alone, three politicians are standing for the Organisation Against the ENA System party (OCSENA).

One Gaullist MP fighting for re-election, Jean-Michel Fourgous, has called for the abolition of the grandest of France's *grandes écoles*, this "administrative club, intellectually competent but economically archaic, politically irresponsible and socially cut off from the people".

During his presidential campaign just over two years ago, Jacques Chirac thun-

dered against the ENA network, calling it "an omnipotent caste divorced from reality, more talented in flattery than decision-making".

But M Chirac, it should be noted, is the country's most prominent ENA graduate, while his Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, has come to represent the *énarque par*



FRENCH ELECTIONS

excellence — highly intelligent, academically impeccable but distant, uncompromising and arrogant. Two of the front-runners to replace him, the parliamentary Speaker, Philippe Séguin, and the former Prime Minister, Edouard Balladur, are also members of the ENA club. Nor is inclusion confined to the Right. Lionel Jospin, the leader of the Socialist Party, is also a graduate.

along with the former Socialist Prime Ministers Laurent Fabius and Michel Rocard.

The cynicism rife in all parts of the French electorate is due, in part, to the perception that the election will make little impact on the influential old-boy network and that, in the words of OCSENA, "the senior administration has taken over French politics".

That view has been heightened by the low level of political debate, compounding the belief that a posse of professional politicians is running the election over the heads of the population, with scant regard for voters' genuine concerns and offering little to choose between them.

That impression was starkly reinforced by the exchange of "open letters" between the principal political players last week. First M Chirac offered his opinions in a newspaper article; then M Jospin replied in another; then M Juppé chipped in. For all the impact on the electorate, they might have been bureaucrats exchanging memos.

The principal issue of this election, the future of the single European currency, has been barely addressed so far. M Chirac called the snap election precisely to push ahead with deficit-reduction



Lionel Jospin, the French Socialist leader, pauses to taste cherries during a weekend campaign break in Paris.

and the EMU project, but campaigning on that platform is a sure vote-loser.

M Jospin, on the other hand, has raised questions about the single currency, but cannot risk openly opposing it.

As the economic commentator, Alain Minc, observed last week: "It is all very hypocritical here in France."

Faced with a line-up of

politicians whose policies and pedigrees are often all but indistinguishable and an election campaign enlivened only by sniping within the alliances on left and right, much of the electorate has taken refuge in boredom and apathy.

The latest poll, published yesterday by *Le Journal du Dimanche*, showed that the centre-right coalition had

pulled ahead again after a flurry of surveys suggesting that the Left might be on track for an upset victory. An IFOF poll predicted 41 per cent for the combined Right and 38 per cent for the left-wing alliance, translating into 328-353 seats for the Centre-Right and 193-227 for the Left.

But perhaps most significantly, nearly 30 per cent of

those polled had not traded up their minds. "As soon as one of the great political families goes forward, it is stopped in its tracks," said columnist Alain Genestier in *Le Journal du Dimanche*. "The French people are expressing their lack of enthusiasm for a win by either camp."

William Rees-Mogg, page 20

## 19 die in Kashmir clashes

Srinagar: Gun battles between Muslim separatists and Indian troops and abductions in Kashmir left 19 people dead at the weekend, police reported last night. Six militants and an Indian soldier were killed in the main clash at Bahkikam village, 50 miles north of here, after troops surrounded the village to arrest separatist activists. The militants were reported to have opened fire using automatic rifles. (AFP)

## Volga hero dies

Moscow: The police chief of Kostroma town drowned after rescuing four people whose boat overturned in the Volga as Russians celebrated Victory Day, marking their triumph over the Nazis. (AP)

## Big spenders

Bangkok: US troops on leave from joint exercises with the Thai military will spend the equivalent of £25 million in Pattaya, notorious for prostitution and crime, the Thai tourism authority says. (AP)

## Ancient excuse

Santa Fe: Roger Katz, 50, a former teacher who allegedly had an affair with a 14-year-old student, told a New Mexico judge she had saved his life when he was a 7th-century Buddhist monk. (Reuters)

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## Police fear wider network of Venice militants

Rome: Italian police issued a warning yesterday that the Venetian separatists who occupied the Campanile (bell tower) on St Mark's Square on Friday were not "isolated amateurs" but part of a wider network (Richard Owen writes).

Police said other members of a militant group seeking "independence" for Venice and the Veneto region had threatened to carry out further acts of terrorism. *La Repubblica*, which with

other Italian newspapers devoted six pages on Saturday to the attack and again yesterday, said in a front-page editorial that, although the assault on the Campanile by eight self-styled Venetian commandos, smacked of buffoonery, it reflected a wider demand for local autonomy. "The Italian state must nip this threat in the bud by pushing through federalist reforms to give the regions greater powers," the paper said.

Yesterday voters went to the polls in 80 towns and provinces in a second round of local elections, with control of key northern towns such as Milan, Turin and Trieste at stake. Umberto Bossi, the leader of the separatist Northern League — which has denied having any links with the group of Venetian militants — urged his followers to boycott the voting and "go to the mountains" for the day instead.

## Palermo court drama mars opera reopening

FROM FRANCESCO BONGARRA IN PALERMO AND RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

AFTER last-minute restoration work, the wraps came off Palermo's partially renovated opera house today following a 23-year closure, with the Teatro Massimo echoing to the aria *Va Pensiero* from Verdi's *Nabucco* — the last work played there before it closed for repairs in January 1974. For Palermo the gala reopening is a symbol of hope and revival as the city emerges from the grip of the Mafia.

But right-wing Sicilian politicians from Forza Italia and the Alleanza Nazionale accused Leoluca Orlando, the popular anti-Mafia Mayor of Palermo, of staging the spectacle prematurely to distract attention from accusations that he mismanaged opera restoration funds as Mayor in the 1980s. Signor Orlando faces re-election in the autumn.

The Teatro Massimo will not be able to stage a full opera for at least another year and is confining itself to concerts. Today's opening concert is by the Berlin Philharmonic, conducted by Claudio Abbado. Franco Zeffirelli, the film director and a senator for Sicily,

said Signor Orlando was staging a "fake, papier-mâché inauguration" for electoral purposes.

Trial proceedings against Signor Orlando are due to open next week. He said yesterday he had taken control of the opera restoration and appointed new builders after the last mayoral election in 1993 "precisely because funds were going missing". He had "full faith in the judges" and would be exonerated.

The neo-classical Teatro Massimo is the victim of neglect rather than fire. Built between 1875 and 1897 by the Sicilian architect, Ernesto Basile, with money provided by the fortunes of British wine merchants who founded the Marsala wine industry, it is the third largest opera house in Europe (after Vienna and Paris). It was closed because it lacked an emergency exit and contravened safety rules.

The fact that it has taken nearly a quarter of a century to reopen is seen as testimony to the bureaucracy and corruption which has plagued Sicily despite periodic attempts to clean up the system.

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# Why the Hindenburg went up in flames

US scientists have taken another look at the zeppelin disaster. Anjana Ahuja reports

Sixty years ago this week, the streets of New York were packed with people, their eyes straining heavenwards to see the floating giant. That evening, the Hindenburg, its silver skin decorated with swastikas, was no more.

Eyewitnesses said it took less than a minute for the zeppelin to ignite, explode and crash at Lakehurst in New Jersey. The ensuing decades have not dampened speculation about the cause: was the disaster, which claimed the lives of 36 of the 97 people on board, caused by static electricity discharged from the outer cover; a bomb; or an incendiary bullet? But one important aspect — that the blaze took hold because the hydrogen used to keep the airship afloat was highly flammable — has not been questioned, until now.

In a timely piece of detective work, two scientists have stepped forward with a radically different scientific analysis of what happened. Addison Bain, the former head of NASA's hydrogen programme at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, and Richard Van Treuren, a space shuttle engineer, say the fabric of the airship and its waterproof lacquer coating were the key fire hazards. It would have been obvious to blame hydrogen, and more expedient — the Germans were forced to use the flammable hydrogen because, as diplomatic tensions escalated, America would not export nonflammable helium.

The story begins with Mr Bain, a NASA employee for 30 years. One of his tasks was to procure hydrogen gas for use in the space shuttle programme. "I was compiling a book on hydrogen safety and I was continually coming across reports of the Hindenburg disaster," he says. "But nearly every report had some kind of inconsistency."

His curiosity aroused, Mr Bain began to research the event more thoroughly. He found that the airship envelope, or cover, was made from cotton and linen. Doping materials were added to stiffen the fabric, make it waterproof and provide some protection from the sun.



Floating timebomb: in the early evening of May 6, 1937, the Hindenburg exploded and crashed at Lakehurst in New Jersey

"The doping materials included a powdered aluminium, which is used in space shuttles, and a cellulose nitrate, which is used to make explosives," he says. "The other things that caught my eye were photographs and footage of the event and the reports. Witnesses reported seeing yellow, red and orange flames. Hydrogen burns with colour. Also, the pieces of fabric did not self-extinguish. They carried on burning."

Mr Bain, who had by this time retired, contacted his former colleagues at the Kennedy Space Centre, including Mr Van Treuren, who is also an airship enthusiast. Friends at the centre's material science laboratory agreed to test the theory that it was the zeppelin's doped fabric, rather than the hydrogen gas, that proved lethal. But first, the men had to track down fragments of the Hindenburg cover. Some aficionados refused to part with

their scraps of history; others donated tiny portions. Mr Bain also paid for samples.

Scientists at Kennedy then conducted tests for ignition and inflammability. In the first test, they applied an arc of electricity to the fabric. If the arc hit the fabric perpendicularly, as a lightning bolt would do, it burnt a harmless hole. If the arc hit the fabric in a parallel way, with electrical charge shooting along the cloth, the fragment ignited.

This confirmed Mr Bain's theory that the doped outer covering of the Hindenburg was, in effect, a thin layer of explosive rocket fuel. He thinks the conditions in the early evening of May 6, 1937, would have been fatally ideal — a passing thunderstorm, he says, had left the atmosphere highly electrified.

As part of his research, Mr Bain travelled to Friedrichshafen, Germany, where Count Ferdinand Graf von Zeppelin built his airships, including the Hindenburg. There, he discovered designs for the Hindenburg's successor, the LZ-130. Among the changes were plans to reduce the flammability of the cover and improve the conductivity of the airship envelope," he says. "The changes suggest that the manufacturers knew the real cause of the fire."

Mr Bain and Mr Van Treuren are publishing their findings in *Buoyant Flight*, a US magazine. They cite other factors that add weight to their argument: archival accounts of US Navy airships filled with helium which burnt as furiously, and records of hydrogen-filled airships coming under fire and failing to burn.

Their theory has, for the most part, been well-received. "A lot of people feel as if they've had their eyes opened," says Eric Brothers, the editor of *Buoyant Flight*. "These guys have really looked into the science of how hydrogen burns, using technology that wasn't around 60 years ago."

Some sceptics, however, point out that the fabric may have changed substantially. Mr Bain disputes this: "The fragments are remarkably well-preserved. In so many cases we have seen the frailty of human engineering. The sulphur in the steel hull of the *Titanic* caused it to shatter. In the Challenger disaster, the O-ring became inelastic at cold temperatures. Sometimes, we cannot compete with Mother Nature."

Take cover ☐ Helpful bacteria ☐ Seeing rocks

## Creating a splash

TRADITIONALLY, the world's fastest computers have been used to forecast the weather and to simulate the explosion of nuclear weapons. The move away from nuclear testing puts a greater premium on this latter capability, and a supercomputer recently installed at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico, will increasingly take on the role of proving that the weapons in the American stockpile still work.

But before they started, Gil Weigand, the official responsible for strategic computing at the US Department of Energy, asked Sandia to carry out a simulation of more general interest. Dr David Crawford responded by using the computer to simulate an event of incomparably greater power than even a nuclear weapon — the impact of a one-kilometre comet on the Earth. That is about the size of the largest fragment of the comet Shoemaker-Levy which struck Jupiter in 1994.

Dr Crawford and his colleague, Dr Mark Boslough, used 1,500 processors of the Intel supercomputer, which is capable of one trillion operations per second. The problem was split into 54 million separate "zones" of operation and ran for a full 48 hours. They used the same program as they had used to simulate the Jupiter impact — on that occasion, the prediction that a visible plume would rise above the rim of Jupiter was borne out by experience.

They assumed a one-kilometre comet, which would weigh about a billion tons, travelling at 60 kilometres per second and



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

hitting the atmosphere at an angle of 45 degrees before landing in one of the world's oceans. This is not a large comet — Hale-Bopp is about 40 kilometres across and weighs about ten trillion tons.

The simulation starts with the comet about 30 kilometres above the surface, producing a luminous bow shock as it penetrates the atmosphere. It hits the ocean less than a second later, generating an impact energy of 300 billion tons of TNT — ten times the power of all the nuclear weapons in existence at the height of the Cold War. The explosion creates a deep hole in the ocean, and vaporising the comet instantly, along with 300 to 500 cubic kilometres of water, which rises as a huge steam explosion. Debris is hurled into ballistic trajectories that carry it around the Earth.

Low-lying areas of land would be swamped by huge waves, but a comet this size is too small to cause a global catastrophe. If it were only slightly larger, says Dr Crawford, the debris would be sufficient to block out sunlight and disrupt agriculture. "Simulations of this kind can help to pin down the energy threshold and help to answer the question: Is it a regional or a global catastrophe?"

Fortunately, the chances of such an event are reckoned to be small, about once every 300,000 years. That's a long time in human history, although not so long when measured against the Earth's 4.5 billion-year lifetime. Dr Boslough says: "It's a low probability, high-consequence event."

## How brittle stars grow new limbs



THE brittle star, a longer-armed version of the starfish, loses limbs with regularity but manages to grow new ones without the wounds becoming infected. Last week Dr Bill Dobson, a marine biologist from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, told a Miami conference how the creature does it.

He says symbiotic bacteria living on the brittle star produce compounds that kill many pathogens. With Eileen Stahl, a graduate student, Dr Dobson has shown that at least ten species of bacteria live in the brittle star, and that within an hour or two of an injury the wound is completely covered with them.

When tested in petri dishes against common pathogens, many of the bacterial species were able to prevent the growth of the organisms responsible for pneumonia, salmonella and diphtheria. Dr Dobson hopes further study will reveal what the bacteria are, and which compounds they produce, with the aim of creating a new range of antibiotic drugs.

## US satellite detects early settler quarries



USING satellite images, a team of American scientists has pinpointed eight quarries worked by the first settlers of North America up to 10,000 years ago. The quarries, a source of a quartz-like material called chert used for making tools, all lie in Horse Prairie Valley, an 800 square mile area of southwest Montana.

The team, from the University of Colorado and led by anthropologist Thomas Carr, first studied a known quarry. From this data they developed spectral "signatures" of 12 geological and vegetation patterns characteristic of the quarry. Different frequencies of radiation detected by satellites provide information about the type of rocks, and the type of plants, in any small area. A chert quarry, for example, would be expected to show the kind of bedrock that carries chert, next to an area of disturbed soil.

A computer searched images taken by the Landsat satellite for the characteristics eight sites turned out to be quarries. Mr Carr believes the technique has great potential for uncovering other ancient quarries.

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# 'There have been times when I've felt the pressure of who my father is'

Jason Connery hopes that his latest film role, as Macbeth, will finally free him from comparisons with 007. Interview by Giles Whittell

There is a story from Jason Connery's reckless youth that, to his credit, he does not mind retelling. Twelve years or so ago he was racing his motorbike in Sussex when, in the process of crashing, he banged his left testicle against his petrol tank.

He fractured a thumb and some ribs but it was his underwear that alarmed the paramedics. Bleeding internally, his scrotum swelled to the size of a grapefruit. He was rushed to hospital in Brighton and undressed by a female nurse who promptly called in two more.

When the specialist arrived she announced an incision would have to be made to let the blood drain out, but not

before summoning ten medical students to behold the rare sight of acute testicular haemorrhage.

"You don't mind, do you, Mr Connery?" he remembers being told. He was on national television every week at the time as *Robin of Sherwood*: a familiar face, not to mention a famous name.

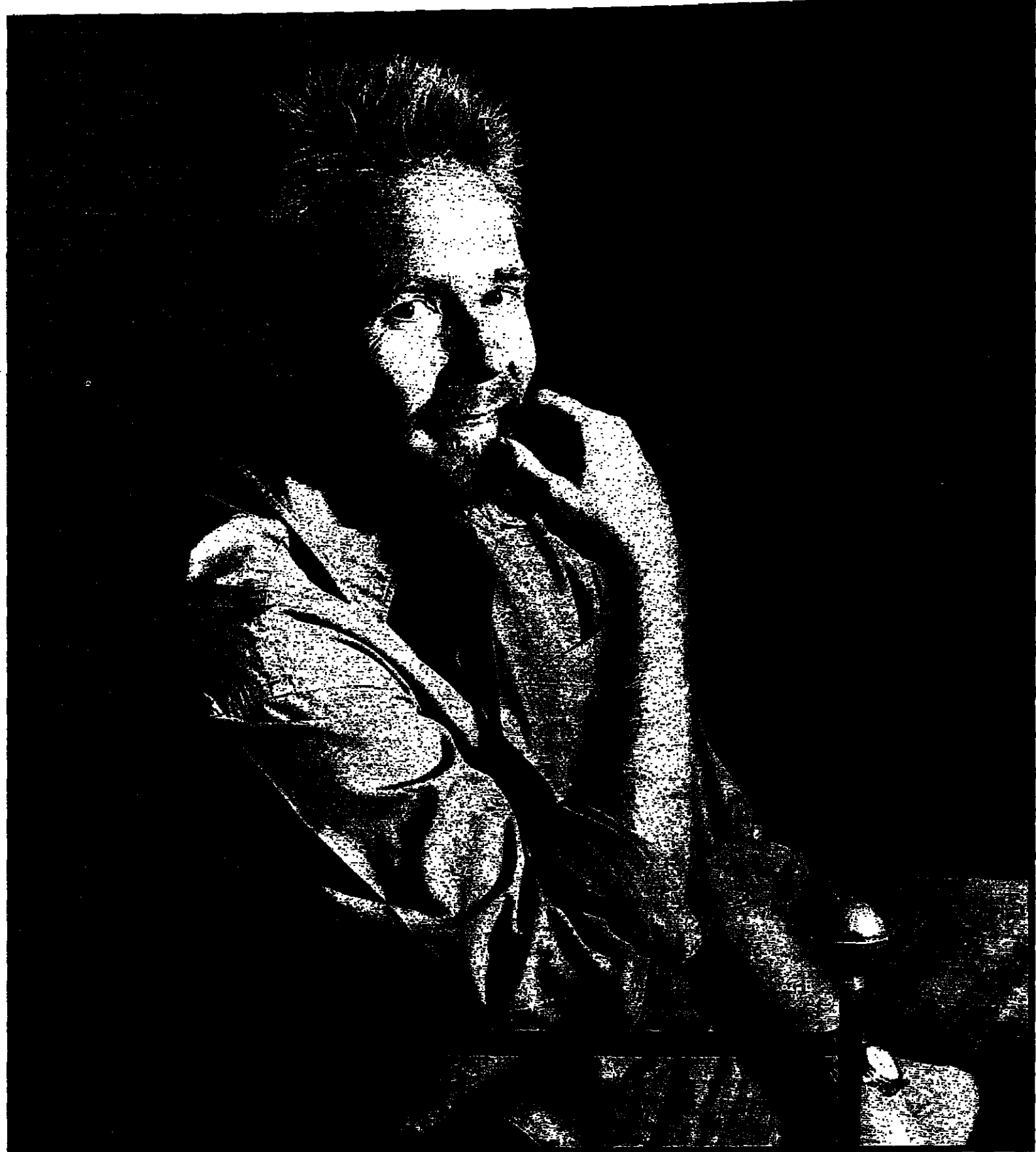
"No," he groaned. As it turned out, the incision was never made and the testicle gradually healed of its own accord. But Connery lost a job in a film produced by Michael Douglas because of it. When Connery withdrew, Douglas telephoned to ask why. Connery never told him.

This son of Sean is stoic and very private, even if his privacy has to come before his

career. Such are his priorities as he arrives in London this week from Los Angeles for his first major British premiere, as the lead in a new film version of *Macbeth*. It is, he hopes, the role that will finally establish him as a major actor in his own right, independent and in demand beyond his father's lowering shadow.

As on the motorbike track, so in film: Connery Jr does not want for courage. He has taken on one of the great tragic roles in the language despite a curriculum vitae that boasts only one professional Shakespeare part before it: he once played Petruchio in *Taming of the Shrew* at Southampton. Otherwise, he has not touched the Bard since school.

"I did feel I was being



Jason Connery is intent on disguising his absurdly good looks. The *Macbeth* hair has been replaced by a hedgehog cut and a Hollywood goatee

thrown in the deep end," he says. "But I was the one who threw myself there." He did not audition for the part, exactly. It was more a case of agreeing to team up again with his old mate Bob Carruthers of Cromwell Films:

which finances ultra-low budget films by selling 500 or so shares at \$500 per investor.

The innovative Carruthers system ensures that even if shareholders don't recoup their money they get invitations to the premiere and the chance of being an extra. The challenge for the director and his principals is to harness this amateur enthusiasm in the name of a professional film.

Connery prepared diligently. For one thing, he grew a full beard and very long hair. Hirsute was hip in 18th-century Scotland, but it also conveniently distinguishes the current Connery from the close-cropped, boy-next-door

guy in which he played Robin Hood (Reclining for the *Times* photographer beneath Whoopi Goldberg's cigar cabinet in a private humidor in Beverly Hills, he still seems intent on disguising his absurdly good looks. The *Macbeth* hairstyle has been replaced by a hedgehog cut and the unaccountably fashionable Hollywood goatee.)

Hair apart, how does one recreate a character already brought to the big screen by Orson Welles, Peter O'Toole, Sir Ian McKellen and Sir Anthony Hopkins? If Connery was ever daunted by the inevitable comparisons, he is not admitting it. Nor does he have much time for the pretensions of "method" acting so beloved of the more self-important American stars.

Asked about his ambition, he replies in unintended but surely revealing oxymoron: "I think I'm totally committed," he says. "I love acting, but I do feel there are other things, such as my relationship with my wife and child and to an extent my friends, that are more important."

Technically, he does not have a child yet, but his wife, the actress Mia Sara, is eight months pregnant. They met three years ago on the St Petersburg set of *Bullet in the Head*, where their co-star Michael Caine acted as unwitting matchmaker by offering them both respite from the bitter Russian cold in his imported Winnipeg.

Connery hit it off with Caine as his father had decades earlier. When he and Sara

were married last year, it was in the Candlelight Wedding Chapel in Las Vegas, recommended by Caine from fond experience. When they returned to London, their first stop was a party thrown for them by Caine at Langan's.

Sean Connery did not attend the wedding. The gleeful tabloids called it a snub. Jason Connery insists it was his idea. "We didn't tell Dad and we didn't tell Mum (actress Diane Cilento, divorced 24 years ago) because basically they can't stand each other," he says bluntly.

Secretive as the wedding was, a year later Connery is taking it most seriously. The only future role he is certain of, he says, is "being a husband and a father". It is not far-fetched to suppose that his earnest-sounding 34-year-old has formed his views on fatherhood from his experience of childhood, which included attending a series of expensive boarding schools (Millfield, Gordonstoun) as his own father bestrode the world and topped most sex-

symbol rankings. Still, he insists that most of what has been written about his allegedly tricky relationship with the original 007 is myth.

"There have been times when I've felt the pressure of who my father is," he says, remembering his early days at Perth. Rep when the local paper would send a photographer round if he so much as rehearsed. "You're under scrutiny much earlier. When you walk in the door people think, 'I wonder if he's going to look like his dad, or sound like him, or have a complex about him'."

"But on the whole I feel as though it's not my problem. In fact it isn't a problem. I am Sean Connery's son."

"They will not be together at the premiere. Sean will be in New York accepting an award and Jason is ready for the next round of 'Father Snubs Son' hysteria. As it subsides, they will meet up, as they often do, for 18 quiet holes at Sunningdale or the Sherwood course in California."

"If I wanted it I could create it, that whole maelstrom of publicity," says junior. "But you have a choice. I think I learnt that from my father."

Macbeth goes on release from today and nationwide in June

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# The very valuable crisis



For modern women, midlife is the last remaining mystery, the age that feminism forgot. Pundits such as Germaine Greer and Gail Sheehy have depicted the years between 40 and 50 as an alarming decade, the adolescence of old age, full of uncontrollable and distressing hormonal disturbance. But in a

remarkable book, the Cambridge academic Terri Apter challenges this view. Having interviewed 80 women over four years, she has become convinced that midlife holds the secret of a new kind of fulfilment. She talked to **Grace Bradberry** about her radical theory of midlife as a period of growth, reassessment and renewed confidence

Few psychological terms are as flung about so casually as "midlife crisis", particularly where women are concerned. Naturally, we tend to assume that a large body of literature devoted to the subject must exist. In fact, the pain of fortysomething women has been virtually ignored.

Germaine Greer's *The Change* and Gail Sheehy's *The Silent Passage* made it, briefly, a hot topic — yet both discussed midlife largely in terms of the menopause.

Now Terri Apter, a social psychologist, is taking issue with Greer, arguing that midlife crisis is a definite psychological event. How one copes with it determines how one will cope with menopause, not the other way round.

Her criticism is not only that Greer places so much emphasis on the menopause, but also that she turns her own experiences into a universal truth. "There's a sleight of hand where she'll be talking about an experience of menopause and she doesn't say 'This is my experience'."

In Apter's own book, *Secret Paths: Women in the New Midlife*, she asserts that between 40 and 50 all women go through a period of anger, and anxiety. Many are plagued by regret and a sense of failure that they did not manage to "have it all". The good news is that the majority emerge with a better idea of what they want and the determination to follow that through.

The book is not a personal one, and I rather expected Apter, 48, would prove the exception to her own rules. She is American — born in Chicago, although she has lived here since 1971 — and her stark biographical details conjure up a superwoman.

She is a fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, and has been

## SECRET PATHS Women in the new midlife

married for 22 years to David Newbury, Professor of Applied Economics at the university. By the time their two daughters, Miranda, 18, and Julia, 14, were born, Apter had published two novels. She then produced two academic works, one on working mothers, the other on the relationship between mothers and adolescent daughters.

One expects a blindingly together, verbally combative whirlwind. Yet the woman who appears is physically slight, with a girlish demeanour and a soft laugh.

By and large, the self-effacing Apter keeps herself out of this book. It soon emerges, however, that she was going through her own crisis while writing it. In one of the few personal passages, she recounts her feelings of inadequacy when visiting her friend Angela Harris, who not only has a family, but a high-powered job in London.

So do women like Angela have doubts? The message of the book is that they do —

although in this case Apter never discovered them. "She read the book, and she recognised herself," says Apter. "But she didn't say, 'Oh, no, no, no, I'm not like that at all', although she did admit she had been lucky. So you see, I'm not free from the ghost of the woman who has it all. And I don't think we ever can be."

Apter divided the interviewees into four broad categories, although some fitted more than one. Her first group is the "traditional" women. Having devoted themselves to their families, putting their careers to one side, their particular crisis was to wonder if a happy family was enough. Their alter-egos were the "innovative" women, who pursued tough career paths only to spend their 40s wondering if they wanted to carry on in workplaces tailored to men.

Some of Apter's sample, restricted by their education, had settled for quite narrow lives. These "expansive" women wanted to break out of the groove. The fourth group, the "protestors", felt that they had been thrown into premature adulthood, perhaps by an early pregnancy.

Only one group is not represented — the very poor. A black American told Apter life was too much of a struggle for her to have any such luxurious thing as a crisis. "It was very helpful, if a bit hollowing, to be shown there was a barrier beyond which these things didn't make sense."

Inevitably, Apter's research also led her to question which category she might fall into. "I certainly always saw myself as innovative." But as she wrote the book, and faced up to her own regrets, she realised she had lapsed, slipping towards the "traditional". Occasional remarks would pull her up short. "Let's say if a 'family member' praised me for ironing his shirts well."

This is a revelation indeed. She laughs. "Objectively, I do fulfil traditional roles. But there's a sense that that isn't who I really am — even though I do those things." Apter, it transpires, has the same capacity for deluding herself as her case studies. And like them, she only faced up to the self-deception in her 40s. She also says that, like many of her generation, she believed that "having it all" would be relatively easy.

Just before she was 21, halfway through her second degree, she met her husband, David Newbury, was then a young don, and he was keen to marry. Apter was not: "I was really resisting traditional roles. I thought I was extremely independent and I really thought I'd won the women's revolution."

Instead, they moved into a house in Cambridge, marrying five years later in 1975. Ostensibly, Apter was pursuing her own goals, working at her novels. But in her 40s she was to look back and wonder how she could not have no-



The way in which women cope with their midlife crisis determines how they will cope with menopause

tioned that she was slipping into domesticity.

The catalyst was a move to Berkeley, California, where her husband had been appointed visiting professor. She was 38, surrounded by high-achieving women, all talking positively about their lives.

In fact, Apter had not been idle. During her 30s she had written the book on working mothers, then turned it into a PhD. At Berkeley, she taught and began research into adolescent daughters.

But she felt on the fringes of academia, and suddenly this mattered. "I would wake at three in the morning thinking about the gap between where I was and what I'd like to be. I just felt everyone else had done the right thing."

She felt that no matter how good her work, it would never have any clout without an academic post. This seemed out of reach. Even now, she says: "My regret is that I did not establish a structured career. That would have made resisting the more traditional forms of motherhood easier."

But as the book continually points out, you cannot have it all. "The thing about most sacrifices is you sacrifice something for something else." If she took on more and more of the domestic roles, it was out of choice. And this is what appears to trouble many of the women in Apter's book. They did have choices. Part of the route out of their crisis was to stop focusing on missed opportunities and take up those still on offer.

Apter's husband would say to her: "Do you want to do something different? We'll manage things so you can." But she wasn't sure she wanted a new career — she simply wanted to turn the clock back. Partly at her husband's urging, however, she did gain a fellowship at Clare Hall in 1990. The routes out of her crisis have not been U-turns, but gentle curves in the road.

But Apter is not entirely an advertisement for her thesis of the bigger and better post-crisis woman: "I still feel there are some regrets that are quite raw and not fully thought out. There's still this fantasy that things might have been different."

Secret Paths will be published by W. W. Norton on Thursday, price £9.95

### TOMORROW



Reaching crisis point

Your personal plan for surviving midlife. Terri Apter's research led her to identify four distinct types of midlife crisis. Tomorrow she outlines these, and offers strategies for approaching the biggest turning-point in any woman's life

### ARTS

Geoff Brown reviews the first films in competition at Cannes, including Bruce Willis in the sci-fi thriller, *The Fifth Element*

Pages 18-19

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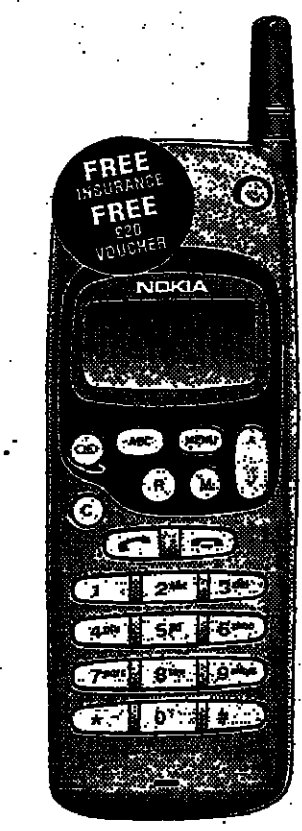
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### CONCERT

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### THEATRE

At the National Theatre Anastasia Hill stars in a new production of *Marat/Sade*  
OPENS: Wednesday  
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Superstars try out their new thoughtful sound on the British Academy crowd  
GIG: Wednesday  
REVIEW: Friday

What, given the will, the imagination and a bit of luck, could the Labour Party achieve for the arts in the next five years? A lot is expected because of Labour's track record. The Arts Council weaved its way into the establishment during the Attlee years; and, with Harold Wilson's blessing, Jennie Lee jumped it into a national prominence which subsequent governments and ministers have built on but not — until the lottery — been able to transform to any similar degree. The time is surely right for a third major leap forward and Chris Smith seems the man to lead the charge.

There are at least three key areas in which the arts could change radically. First, and by far the most important, is the task of getting the message, the skills and the opportunities into schools. I'm aware that this has been said many times before — I have said it often myself. But not often enough for it to have had any real effect. It is time that we stopped being

## Radical recipe for a new British culture

pious and paying no more than lip service to this fundamental idea and addressed it vigorously for what it is — the surest method of putting down a foundation for active future participants and knowledgeable future audiences in an area of our national life bound to grow. Whatever this Government does or does not do, broadcasting, and culture in its widest sense including tourism, will increase in importance and wealth. It is now undeniable that the arts are not only good for trade but they are trade.

Every school should have access to instruments which would allow it to form an orchestra, classical or jazz. School libraries should be well resourced and tied in with town and city libraries. Theatre, opera, dance and classical music groups should tour intensively and continuously. Access to live perfor-

mances ought to be part of the curriculum. Writers, singers, painters, sculptors and architects must be encouraged in short-term residencies. Directors of film, television and video should be brought in for summer schools. A sort of nationwide arts apprenticeship scheme and one which draws in children from all backgrounds should and could be established. This is not idealistic. It is completely realistic. If we are to make use of our world language and the advantage we have in many of the cultural areas already, then we simply have to attend properly and thoroughly to the roots of the matter. Many people of my generation and older still cannot help thinking of the arts as a luxury, a frippery or an extra. How many times do we have to repeat that more people work in the arts than work in the steel, coal



and car industries combined? How many times do we have to say that the culture/tourist industries bring in £16 billion a year and rising? We have lost many old heavy industries. There is every-

thing to be said for developing a new heavy cultural industry which will be increasingly important and on a global scale. Hollywood is a clear example here. Its intensive development and cultivation of film and television has made it the second biggest industry in the USA and yet what is it? Just a bunch of pictures, movies, still often regarded as nothing more than an amusement arcade of the lowest common denominator. But Hollywood saw an opportunity and seized it. Secondly, we have to make the final break which leaves London a world city but gives real independence and clout to the other great cities in Britain. Glasgow has shown the way and even though it is now struggling, the institutions, the artists and the work in that city show what can be done. There are

similar stirrings elsewhere but a strategy of decentralisation and a willingness to charge local councils to release already available funds could push what is almost an experiment into a reality. Culture could be one of the great engines of growth in these cities. None of this needs massive extra funding. Any extra funding it does need should come from the lottery. This is my third point. The lottery must be made to serve the arts and not, as at present, the arts serving the questionable and highly partial lottery. It must rapidly become much more flexible before the powers that be grow so irritated with its failure to fire properly that more money is moved out to health and other causes which would garner much more popular applause. The lottery has to shift

itself away from its rigid regulations and not only hold onto but build up its stake for the arts. In this area, a comparatively modest investment can have the most tremendous leverage. This is not cloud-cuckoo-land. If anyone 50 years ago had prophesied the popularity enjoyed by today's museums and galleries, he would have been ignored or mocked. If in 30 years time we are major players on the world stage then it will only be because of decisions taken now in an area of life — culture — once thought marginal but increasingly more central to the business of people's daily lives. After all, more than 600,000 people work in the arts directly. There are just three preliminary points. There is much more. There are great expectations for a Labour lifeline. Given the mood of the country, the talent already in place and so widely available, the enthusiasm and intelligence of a new arts team, there is indeed everything to hope for.

LONDON THEATRE: A major Chekhov play revisited at the Old Vic; a minor Chekhov adapted on the fringe

## The pain of laughter

The Seagull  
Old Vic

Russians enjoy reminding the English, who still sometimes think of him as a fastidious miniaturist specialising in autumnal pastels, that Chekhov is a very funny dramatist. In *The Seagull* almost every character is forlornly beset with someone who cannot reciprocate: yet the man himself described it as "a comedy with much talk about literature and five tons of love". Given those words and his own status as a comic playwright, you might expect Tom Stoppard's translation to give Chekhov a larger tickling stick than usual.

But Stoppard knows that Russian, and especially Chekhovian, comedy embraces depth and even despair. So does Peter Hall, his director. So does every member of the cast except Janine Duvitski, who plays Masha's famous opening line, "I'm in mourning for my life", as a petty boast, and generally comes across as too goofy and trivial to take seriously. But overall this is a *Seagull* beautifully balanced between laughter and pain.

Stoppard's text has witty moments — "having no backbone he could bend both ways" neatly mocks Trigorin's propensity for sexual sharing

— but it rejects cleverness for clarity, momentum and subtlety of thought and feeling. This gives Hall's cast the chance to bring texture to their roles: a challenge they accept, starting with Dominic West's Kostia, fumbling writer and lover, and Victoria Hamilton's Nina, a parallel failure in the emotional and artistic stakes. West is a big, gangling figure whose wounded-dog looks hide blundering rage, confused ambition and an intense sickness of heart. At first he contrasts strongly with Hamilton's Nina, who hurls herself into the role of the artless fame-freak, falling on her back in excitement at the prospect of meeting the novelist Trigorin. But shallowness vanishes when she reappears in the fourth-act rain. You don't doubt that her bleached, exhausted Nina, with her mewing, seagull-like sobs and blank, past-caring shrugs, has traversed the emotional chasms.

Michael Pennington brings out the gulf between the superman of Nina's imagination and the real Trigorin,

presenting us with a bashful, insecure creature who patronises Andrew Aguecheek's barber and gets his droopy body-language from a similarly nerdy source. His is a brave, interesting performance, but it leaves you asking why he excites such sexual rapacity in Felicity Kendal's Arkadina, especially as he also looks older than he should and she makes no great effort to suggest the actress's terror of ageing.

Nevertheless, Kendal has superb moments, notably when a tiny argument about horses suddenly escalates into wails and screams of dismay and you see the raw nerves under the blithe surface. But then Hall's production often shows you what people are feeling and failing to say; and not only where the major characters are concerned. Observe the minuscule flash of jealousy that crosses the face of Anna Carteret's Polina when Arkadina pays an off-hand compliment to David Yelland's Dorn, the beloved doctor who has raised studied indifference to an art form. That's truthful. That's Chekhovian. That sums up the evening's quality.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



Felicity Kendal (Arkadina) and Michael Pennington (Trigorin) in Peter Hall's staging

## Phoenix rising from the ashes

Hallé/Nagano  
Manchester

IN THE five seasons Kent Nagano has now completed with the Hallé Orchestra, comment has tended to focus on his interpretative rather than his technical achievement. In converting the Hallé to something closer to his own ideal, Nagano had to reassess it, and, temporarily at least, test something vital in the process.

If the Hallé has not recovered the more extrovert aspects of its character it is certainly more at ease both with itself and its principal conductor. Fleck's performance of Mahler's *Resurrection* Symphony offered abundant evidence of an orchestra with finer tuning, a more accessible and more discriminating range of colour, a clearer texture, and more discipline in general.

The most impressive aspect of the interpretation was the effect made by the one chord, on the last-but-one syllable of the choral part, which marks the climax of the work. The fact that the greatest emotional effort was reserved for this precise moment is not in itself remarkable. But that it should so naturally take its place as

the culmination of all that has gone before it was proof of a brilliantly executed strategy.

One of the more important issues in the strategy was the problem of the second subject of the first movement, the *Requiem* theme, which at one point was preceded by a section so long that it seemed the performance might not start again. But in general it was not an interpretation to take risks. It was presumably part of the economy that the intervention of the voices would lift the interpretation on to another level. Certainly, that is what was achieved by Chorus Helicoban's firmly intoned *Urlicht*. After some well-managed offstage last-minute effects and an atmospheric blurring cadenza in the last movement, the eerie entry of the Hallé Choir lifted it yet again.

GERALD LARNER

## Grand horizontal

ROSA MANNION'S performance in the title role was the main reason for going to Jonathan Miller's production of *La traviata* when it opened the ENO season last September. On revival, almost totally recast and musically a good deal more assured than six months ago, *Violetta* remains the spur.

She is now the American soprano Susan Patterson, making her London debut. The two *Violettas* could not be more different. In Act 1 Mannon was already a victim, fragile and in need of support. Patterson is almost distant, a Henry James heroine keeping her head above decadent European driftwood. Her handling of the act's closing scene was technically unblemished, but chilly.

That could well have been part of the game plan. Patterson only began to suppose *Violetta*'s frailty when Giorgio Germont arrived to confront her. From there the downward slide began. She started to colour Verdi's vocal line so that the first fringes of despair emerged and, built towards a deeply felt final act. Throughout the latter Miller kept her in bed and Patterson is well up to the physical demands of singing prostrate, floating out into the theatre the

La traviata  
Coliseum

notes that announce to everyone but herself that she is about to die.

Julian Gavin, the new Alfredo, threw himself with passion into this last encounter. Earlier he had successfully portrayed the gauche boy not quite sure what has hit him. Christopher Booth-Jones was a scintillating, lightweight Germont père. Sharper performance came from Claire Henry (Flora), Richard Van Allen (the Baron) and Anthony Mee (the Viscount).

JOHN HIGGINS

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## All fear the Russian bore

The Duel  
Lyric Studio,  
Hammersmith

I WOULD have happily traded in the bottle of Russian vodka sent to me by News From Verona Theatre Company if Roger Ringrose and Tim Marchant's adaptation of Chekhov's "short" story had stopped after one, rather than three, hours.

On a wooden seaside promenade framed by a nest square of pebble beach, there is a lazy clash of personalities between Ivan Layevsky, a dissolute young government official, and Von Koren, an affluent, hard-nosed zoologist. Their differences are hazily mapped over long lunches and picnics in a claustrophobic resort on the Black Sea. We run into clouds of ennui, beamed scenes and fraught-sounding conversations that add up to a lot less than Marchant's direction might imply.

On Layevsky's side there is Samolyenko (played with bluff appeal by Jean-Benoit Blanc),

a big-hearted army doctor who lets his alcoholic friend abuse his bar tab. There is also Laura Jones's shallow Nadyezhda, a married woman infatuated with Layevsky, but sitting on several other local indiscretions. "Crippled by civilisation" and the stifling attentions of Nadyezhda and his overbearing mother (Victoria Plum), Layevsky dreams of escaping to St Petersburg. It is a familiar romantic theme in Chekhov. It is unfortunate, therefore, that Paul McEwan's romantic hero has the sexual charisma of a plucked chicken. There isn't a moment when you wouldn't like to take him outside and shoot him yourself.

Roger Ringrose plays Von Koren, the zoologist, like a severe prep school house-master. His most interesting contribution is a discussion with Tony Sloman's irritatingly happy Deacon. Here Von Koren argues for natural selection over Christian virtues. Don't let humanity get in the way, especially when it comes to scum like Layevsky. Sure enough, by the time we get to the duel, our theatrical charity has long since departed.

The production ends up in a flurry of needless scene changes designed to give the illusion of expediency. The moral code, delivered by a chastened and changed Layevsky, that life proceeds by going two steps forward and one step back, could have fallen out of a Chinese fortune cookie.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

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## The Tories who stayed at home

Garret FitzGerald says Labour won surprisingly few converts

To what extent does Labour's massive parliamentary majority reflect a major swing from Tories to Labour, and to what extent it is the outcome of Tories registering protest votes for groups such as the Referendum Party or else staying at home out of unhappiness with the parliamentary party?

The total voting figures reveal a low turnout, and show that the increase in the Labour vote in no case came near to matching the decline in the votes cast for the Conservative and Liberal Democrat candidates. The first surprise is that although both the total population and the adult population of the UK have risen by about one million since 1992, the electorate today is fractionally smaller than five years ago. Whatever the reason for this anomaly, the fact that there has been very little change in the electorate makes direct comparisons between the 1992 and 1997 elections quite simple.

The total of votes cast on May 1 was down by two million, a drop of 6 per cent in the turnout. How was this accounted for? Broadly speaking, 4,500,000 people who voted Conservative in 1992 failed to do so on this occasion, a drop of almost one third. Moreover, one eighth of the 1992 Liberal Democrat voters, 750,000 of them, also abandoned their former allegiance.

What did these five and a quarter million people do with their votes? Well, 800,000, mainly in England, switched to the Referendum Party — and one can be certain that almost all of this batch of switchers were Tories rather than Liberal Democrats. Moreover, votes for other parties and Independents nearly doubled, increasing by 400,000, and at least half of these must have been Tory switchers. Finally, the Labour vote rose by 2,000,000.

How much of this 2,000,000 Labour gain came from the Tories? Clearly, some of it came from Liberal Democrats. Unlike the Tories, the Liberal Democrats had little reason to abstain, so the bulk of the drop of more than 650,000 in that party's vote must have gone elsewhere — and not many Liberal Democrat voters will have plumped for the Referendum Party or similar splinter groups. It seems safe to assume, therefore, that at least 800,000 of these voters switched to Labour, either for tactical reasons, so as to defeat Tory candidates, or because they like Tony Blair's new Labour.

So less than 1,500,000 of Labour's gain can have come from former Tory voters. And, allowing for the 1,000,000 Tory voters who switched to the Referendum Party or to other small parties or Independents, the residue of the 4,500,000 drop in the Tory vote was therefore

accounted for by abstentions. In other words, the whole of the two million fall in the total poll was accounted for simply by Tories staying at home.

With barely one Conservative voter in every ten switching to Labour, it is hard to see how the result of this election can reasonably be described as a landslide, in any normal sense of that term. What made it seem like a landslide, of course, was the first-past-the-post voting system — as a result of which an overall increase of one sixth in the Labour vote, combined with Tory abstentions, increased Labour's parliamentary representation by as much as a half.

The disproportion between the scale of this Labour gain in seats and the much greater magnitude of the Conservative loss — more than half of Tory MPs lost their seats — was accounted for by the perverse relationship between the Liberal Democrats' votes and their seats.

Losing one eighth of their votes, the Liberal Democrats nevertheless increased their representation by a factor of more than 2½, apparently largely because of tactical voting by anti-Tory voters in constituencies where Labour was badly placed to defeat the Tory candidate. For once the British electoral system worked in favour of the Liberal Democrats — although, of course, if this election had been held under proportional representation, their 18 seats would have grown not to 46 but to 131.

The significance of all this is that, in terms of votes, Labour's triumph is much more vulnerable to reversal than may have appeared from the way its victory has been reported. True, the disarray into which the Tories have been plunged by their performance in government and their internal divisions may prove too persistent to allow them to recover the ground they have lost within the lifetime of this Parliament. But if the parliamentary party has the sense and the luck to choose someone who can lead from the Centre rather than the extreme Right, it may fairly readily recover the support of the 3,000,000 Tory voters who effectively went on strike. So, even if at the next election there were to be no great swing back from Labour to the Conservatives, a recovery of the Tory abstentionist and protest votes could go a very long way towards restoring Conservative fortunes.

The election, with its 44.4 per cent Labour vote, was not anything like as decisive and sweeping a victory for Labour as it appears.

The author was Prime Minister of Ireland, 1981-82 and 1982-87.

### GENERAL ELECTIONS 1992 & 1997

	Votes (millions)		
	1992	1997	Change
Conservative	14.05	9.59	-4.46
Labour	11.56	13.55	+1.99
Liberal Democrats	6.00	5.24	-0.76
Nationalists	0.78	0.78	0
Referendum	—	0.81	+0.81
Others	0.44	0.84	+0.40
Great Britain total	32.83	30.82	-2.01
Northern Ireland	0.79	0.79	0
Grand total	33.62	31.61	-2.01
Electorate	43.25	43.15	-0.10
Turnout	77.75%	73.3%	-4.45%

## Own goal

RIPPLING through the classics libraries of Europe is the unusual sound of muffled laughter. A stylish hoax has been perpetrated on that most dear of German publications, *Der Neue Pauly*, the classical encyclopedia founded in Stuttgart in 1839 by the philologist and notorious party bore August Pauly.

News of the trick emerged when a fax arrived at Pisa's Biblioteca della Normale from the hoaxer, signing himself M. Mei, who is believed to be someone once slighted by the Pauly pointyheads.

There in column 895 of the first volume of the latest *Neue Pauly* is the entry for "Apodubalantes", a Greek word roughly translatable as "football". "An ancient sport," pronounces Pauly, "probably an early form of the modern football, although the details are not known. In fourth century BC Corinth, in the Gymnastika of Achilles Takikos, there are the 'andres apodubalantes' (men who hit the ball with their feet)."

According to the bogus entry, a post-Ciceronian document refers to

leading "apodubalantes", and in the first and second centuries AD, the sport was taken by the Roman legions to Britain, from where it spread still further. Despite its enormous popularity, it was condemned in early Christian writings and does not appear after the fourth century AD.



Classic display of skills

In the brief bibliography ending the entry, three authors are listed: A. Pila, B. Pedes and M. Samner. In Latin, *pila* means ball and *pedes* means foot. Matthias Samner currently plays in defence for Borussia Dortmund and Germany.

● The latest to jump from the Tory bridge is Steve Hilton, 27, who helped to run the Tories' disastrous election advertising campaign from Central Office. Tutored in the dark arts by Maurice Saatchi, he was credited with much of the work on the "Labour's tax bombshell" campaign in 1992 and the demon eyes last year. Now, however, he is preparing to leave his mentor's company, M&C Saatchi, to form a rival with friends. Doubtless it will be joining the queue to bid for the Tory account for the next election.

### Horseplay

NOWHERE was the social shift of the past ten days more obvious than at Badminton on Saturday. Strolling among the country sport lovers with his bodyguards, ignoring the anti-hunting stands, was the new Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook. Though a noted racing fan,

The French may well be about to change their failing government for one that is even worse

## How France could sink the euro

William Rees-Mogg

The leading letter in Friday's issue of *Le Figaro* gives some idea of the tone of the French election. "Message to the undecided: in 1993, just four years ago, you atomised the sinister 'Mitterrand generation', with his doubtful suicides and his fortune-tellers, his mistresses... his double lives and double dealing, his Tapie, Pelat, Urbain-Gracco and Credit Lyonnais, his economic incompetence and all-powerful trade unions, his great works and huge waist... For heaven's sake, spare us a return to the past." Yves Michel, the author of this letter, expresses the anger felt by many on the French right about the corruption and incompetence of the Mitterrand years: though of course there has been sleaze on the right as well.

By new Labour standards, the French Socialist Party ought still to be unelectable. There is the recent memory of the failures of 14 years of a Socialist President. The present leader, Lionel Jospin, is still unreconstructed, rather closer to Michael Foot than to Tony Blair. Even the Social Democratic Austrian Chancellor, Viktor Klima, in praising Blair, had to sidestep the implication that Jospin is "démoté". M. Jospin has no answers to the questions that have been put to him by Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister: How can he finance Socialist policies without higher taxes? How can he prevent illegal immigration without the Pasqua-Debre laws? How can he build Europe in coalition with the anti-European communists? Which side of his party will win the battle over privatisation? There are no good answers; it is almost as though the Labour Party had fought the 1997 election, in Britain on its 1987 romanti-

fest, when the reform of the party had only just begun. Yet the opinion polls have been moving in favour of the Socialists; it is possible that the next government of France will be a coalition of the Left including Communist ministers. How could this happen? To start with, both the President, Jacques Chirac, and the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, are very unpopular. As the former President Giscard d'Estaing has written, "a majority of the French are dissatisfied with the way they are being governed".

This is very like the resentment against John Major's administration, but in some ways it is worse. France has very high unemployment: about 70 per cent higher than Britain's. It also has very high taxation: about 25 per cent higher than Britain's. The Conservatives had been in power for 18 years; the Gaullists have had a majority in the Assembly for only four years, and have held the Presidency for only two. The Gaullists have governed worse, broken more promises and become more unpopular more rapidly than John Major.

President Chirac called the election a year early because he thought his party would do worse the longer he waited. The reason for that is the need to reduce the government deficit to meet the Maastricht criteria. The programme of austerity and deflation comes at a time when one French worker in eight is already unemployed. Alain Juppé's campaign theme comes down to this: "Things are bad now, and if you elect us, we will make them much worse."

The Socialists may be incoherent, but the Gaullists, however unpleasant, are not. Already public opinion polls are giving the National Front 16 per cent of the vote on May 25, which is the first ballot. Jean-Marie Le Pen has coined the phrase "better Jospin than Juppé", and has decided that National Front candidates will stay in for the second ballot, taking votes from the government candidates.

The strongest issues for the National Front are unemployment and immigration. Jacques Chirac promised to reduce unemployment as President; he has not even tried to do so. The Government has introduced

severe laws to stop illegal immigration: it has played the anti-immigrant card, but rather clumsily. Indeed, Jean-Louis de Brle, the Interior Minister, has had to apologise for the anti-immigrant remarks he made at the start of the campaign. He said on April 28: "Will you accept that foreigners should come to your home, install themselves there, open your Frigidaire and help themselves?" He now says he meant to refer only to illegal immigrants. Even so, he has shown willingness but not the ability to try to beat the National Front at its own game. If this Frigidaire sound-bite is not racist, I do not know what would be.

In this strange election, there are many cross-currents. Significant supporters of the government parties, including Philippe Séguin, Alain Madelin and Charles Pasqua, are opposed to the Juppé regime. They offer an alternative on the right, but if the Socialists win the election, it will be too late for them; as well as for Juppé himself. There is growing national resentment at the arrogance and elitism of the French political class. One candidate has been attacked as "enarque, mondain et parachuté", a graduate of the Ecole Nationale, and an outsider. The real France, "la France Profonde", has

come to distrust and dislike the political class. As Giscard has said, "The French wish to be governed in another way".

The election has already become venomous enough: there is no way, yet, of knowing who will be the victor on June 1. My own feeling is that once an election starts to slide away from a government, it usually goes on sliding. When President Chirac called this premature election, the first polls showed a government majority of around 40 seats; now that is down to zero. If Giscard is right, the French may have decided to change their government, even to one which could be considerably worse. For the French to vote for Lionel Jospin is a temptation of despair rather than an expression of hope.

Yet this is a very important election. The French Left is wholly committed to reducing unemployment. The propaganda talks of 700,000 new jobs. That cannot be achieved without accepting a higher deficit than the Maastricht 3 per cent, nor can the other Socialist promises be kept. It is a question of priorities. Lionel Jospin favours the euro in theory, but has promised to put employment first; he will depend in the Assembly upon the vote of Communists who oppose the euro as such. If on June 1 it comes clear that the French have taken Jean-Marie Le Pen's advice, "better Jospin than Juppé", France will not be able to join the euro on anything like the Maastricht terms. The exchange dealers will sell francs and buy marks. The British Government may be spared a difficult choice. The election is depressing and may be tragic, but it could decide the future of the European Union.

## An activist leads the charge

Peter Riddell finds Robin Cook looking forward to changes at the Foreign Office



Mr Cook says that if we want progress it is "probably better not to shout 'No' at everything". He is hoping that Britain will be given a proper legal basis for retaining external border controls. He is willing to consider more co-operation on drugs and international crime. But he is as wary as the Tories of the general flexibility clause proposed by France and Germany to allow an inner core of nations to develop new arrangements under the EU's umbrella. He also opposes any moves towards "turning the EU into a defence organisation, or undermining foreign policy co-operation. Under the Cook approach, Britain might be a more cautious member of the EU, but it will still not be in the inner core.

Robin Cook remains a sceptic about European motley tricks. When I suggested that Gordon Brown's decision last Tuesday to give the Bank of England operational responsibility for setting interest rates could open the way to British participation, his reply was an unequivocal no. "Gordon and Tony both made it very plain that it was a decision about the Bank and interest-rate policy in Britain, and in no way prompted by, or to be seen as, a step towards monetary union." While not ruling out participation in the current Parliament, he repeats his campaign refrain that it is "unlikely". Mr Brown, however, wants to keep open that option. Watch for skirmishes here — and possibly the key battle of this Government.

Mr Cook wants to remain involved in domestic politics despite the long periods of travelling. Of course, he will have Mr Blair's ear, since much of the travel is with the Prime Minister. He is also on Mr Blair's new strategy committee, and is represented on the daily co-ordinating meetings chaired by Peter Mandelson. And he is keen to press his views on constitutional change, particularly electoral reform.

What Mr Cook really wants is the wider influence of Bevin or Callaghan. Despite his own left-wing past, Mr Cook says that Bevin is the Labour Foreign Secretary he admires most. Perhaps he ought to find a portrait of Bevin for the empty space over his mantelpiece — an acceptable "old" Labour hero for the Blairite era.

approach, he talks about "solidarity at an international level and interdependence". Today's statement will emphasise the global environment (particularly climate change), human rights and controls on arms exports. A moratorium on British use of land mines has already been announced, and a review is under way on sales of arms to Indonesia. This will be a test of the relative strengths of the contending schools of human rights and trade-comes-first, and it will be closely watched in many quarters.

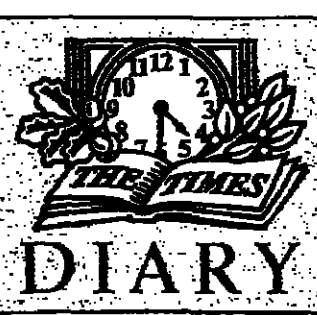
There are echoes of David Owen in Mr Cook's desire to open up the Foreign Office, breaking down hierarchies, opening up communications and the like. Sir David Putnam has even been commissioned to make a video to be sent to missions abroad. Mr Cook is backing a new "offshore" — and independently financed — Foreign Policy Centre, to bring together academics, outside specialists and commentators to provide alternative policy advice. When I suggested that Chatham House (the Royal Institute for International Affairs) was sup-

posed to perform that role, he replied: "With no disrespect to that most august institution, I want something a little more questioning, more probing and more irreverent."

But his most important test will be Europe. Mr Cook is exploiting the goodwill that exists towards a new administration that is "willing to negotiate in earnest and to make a success of negotiations rather than heckling from down the table and seeking to undermine negotiations". Mr Cook talks of a "dramatic" response and "great enthusiasm" on his trips to Paris and Bonn. However, all new Foreign Secretaries sound optimistic about building a new relationship with France and Germany to create a Big Three, and they have all been disappointed. Mr Cook sounds almost like a Conservative of the less sceptical era before Margaret Thatcher's Bruges speech. But Europeans and Americans will be pleased that he has no hang-

about the "special relationship". Instead, he describes the alleged British choice between the Atlantic and Europe as an "absolutely pointless dichotomy. Britain is going to be a more valued, and valuable, ally of America if it is a nation that carries influence in Europe". However, he stresses the affinity between Tony Blair and Bill Clinton, and his own similarities of approach with Madeleine Albright, the American Secretary of State. "We share an activism in our foreign policy."

But the problems at the Foreign Office, and many policies, are the same as they were under the Conservatives. Enlargement of the European Union, reform of the common agricultural policy and completion of the single market will be no easier to achieve just because there is a new British Government. Mr Cook still has to produce something for the fishing industry on quota-hopping. But instead of threatening to block agreement at the Amsterdam summit, he talks more guardedly of the need for progress on the issue than



his love of three-day-evening is something quite new. Meanwhile, eyeing him jealously through the crowd was Sebastian Coe, who was ousted as Tory MP for Falmouth and Camborne, and who was watching his own horse tackling the cross-country.

### It's got to be

EXPECTATIONS were low at Gordon Brown's drinks party for Treasury officials and journalists on Friday evening. In a week in which the talk had been of no lunching and government austerity, Brown, whose reputation is that of joyless roundhead-in-chief, had capped it all by saying his bash would be financed out of his own rather than the public pocket.

The gloom deepened when guests arriving in Brown's vast new drawing room saw no sign of the small table in the far corner from which the Treasury bean-counters have traditionally permitted meagre rations and abysmal vinegars to be dispensed. Yet strangely, Brown was aglow.

The reason quickly became apparent when he pointed to a door leading off the drawing room. There was a whole room filled with cases far more palatable than the



"I'm programming it to kick over the board and go off in a huff"

Treasury ever provided. "It was what they mean by lifting the dead hand of Treasury dogma and private-public partnership," said one of the guests, "long may it continue."

● In Washington last week, John F. Kennedy Jr. was working out in the gym of the Four Seasons hotel. In front, a woman grinding away on the treadmill spotted the hunk's reflection in the mirror, turned to stare and came crashing off the machine. Biceps Kennedy just kept on flexing.

### Fawsley towers

CHIEF among the Tory leftovers that Labour is keen to shift is Lord St John of Fawsley, chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission. The new custodians of the Department of National Heritage would prefer a chairman with fewer Tory affiliations, political and cultural. Their task, however, may not be easy. Fawsley has three years left on his contract, and when determined can be harder to budge than egg on a silk dressing gown. Time then for some lateral thinking. Labour is wondering if cutting down on his perks, such as his government car, might encourage him



St John: finer things

to quit. Then there are the Commission's handsome offices in St James's Square. The threat of relocation to, say, Portland House in Stag Place, home of the smug Millennium Commission and Arts Council Lottery Board, may well be enough either to send Fawsley packing or at least ensure a sudden conversion leftwards. Perhaps that new Labour purple wasn't so bad after all.

P.H.S





Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES SCOTT,  
Ward Hadaway (solicitors),  
Town Hall Chambers,  
7 Beach Road,  
South Shields, Tyne & Wear.  
May 7.

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## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
May 10: The Princess Royal, Patron, this afternoon attended the Gloucestershire and North Avon Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs' 50th Anniversary Show at the Equine Centre, Harpur College, near Gloucester, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire (Mr Henry Elwes).

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
May 11: The Duke of York left Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon for San Francisco, United States of America.

Sir Roger Hervey (Special Representative of the Secretary of

State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and took leave of His Royal Highness. Major Timothy Allan is in attendance.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
May 11: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present at the Annual Memorial Service and Parade of the Combined Cavalry Old Comrades which was held in Hyde Park this morning, when Her Majesty took the salute and laid a wreath on the Cavalry Memorial.

The Lady Margaret Colville and Major Charles MacEwan were in attendance.

### Royal engagements

The Queen will visit the Household Cavalry at Windsor at 11.00 and stay to luncheon.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the exhibition *Lord Cochrane in Chile: In the Admirals' Footsteps* at the Bolivar Hall, 52-54 Grafton Street, London W1 at 4.15.

The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, will attend a Corporate Members Reception 11.15 at Buckingham Palace at 3.00.

Princess Margaret, as President, the Friends of the Elderly, will visit Perrins House and Davenham, the society's homes in Malvern, Worcestershire, from 12.15 and will open the exhibition *Serenissima: The Arts in Venice from the 13th to the 18th Century* at the European Academy for the Arts, 6 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 at 6.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President, Cancer Research Campaign, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, will attend a celebration of Dance, in aid of the Lord Mayor's appeal, at the Royal College of Music at 7.15.

### Dinner

Lord Mayor of Westminster  
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayores of Westminster were the hosts at a dinner held yesterday at City Hall for past lord mayors.

### Birthdays today

Mr Burt Bacharach, composer, 68; Mr Alan Ball, football manager, 52; Mr N.D. Chatur, Rev Hugh Cadbury, 77; Professor Sir Cyril Chantler, paediatrician, 88; Mr M.A. Coates, former chairman, Price Waterhouse, 73; The Earl of Croy and Orrey, 81; Mr John Ford, auctioneer, 74; Miss Susan Hampshire, actress, 55; Mr H.V. Hodson, former Editor, *The Sunday Times*, 91; Mr Michael Ignatieff, writer, 50; Miss Helena Kennedy, QC, 47; The Earl of Kimberley, 73; Dr David Kinniburgh, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Malawi, 78; Lord Laing of Dunblain, 74; Mr Eric Llyall, former chairman, Pearl Group, 73;

Professor C.P. Mayer, economist, 44; Sir Roger Moore, former MP, 72; Rev Hugh Montefiore, former Bishop of Montserrat, 77; Mrs Jenni Murray, broadcaster, 47; Mr Christopher Platt, Governor of Hong Kong, 53.

Miss Rosalind Savill, director, The Wallace Collection, 46; Mr Frederick Smith, trade unionist, 68; Dr Miriam Stoppard, writer and broadcaster, 60; Miss Deborah Warner, theatre director, 38; Mr Charles Winniford, clerk of committees, House of Commons, 61; Mr Steve Winwood, rock singer, 49; Sir Paul Wright, diplomat, 82.

## Leading musicians in fight to save collection

### Priceless manuscripts are turning to dust

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN NAPLES

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to save an endangered collection of priceless Italian musical manuscripts, with two leading figures in the music world — Riccardo Muti, the conductor, and Roberto De Simone, head of the Naples Conservatoire and an opera director at the San Carlo Theatre — appealing for European-wide help.

Signor Muti is normally associated with La Scala in Milan. But he was born in Naples, and studied piano and composition at the Conservatoire of San Pietro a Majella. His signed photograph hangs at the Conservatoire next to a portrait of Donizetti, who taught counterpoint there as well as managing the San Carlo for 16 years.

The Conservatoire has an extraordinary collection of musical manuscripts and letters stretching back to the 16th century, by composers such as Puccini, Rossini, Verdi, Pergolesi, Monteverdi, Berlioz and Bellini. But the collection lies in uncatalogued piles in the Conservatoire library, and the precious paper crumbles to the touch. Some of the music has not been played since it was written hundreds of years ago and is turning to dust.

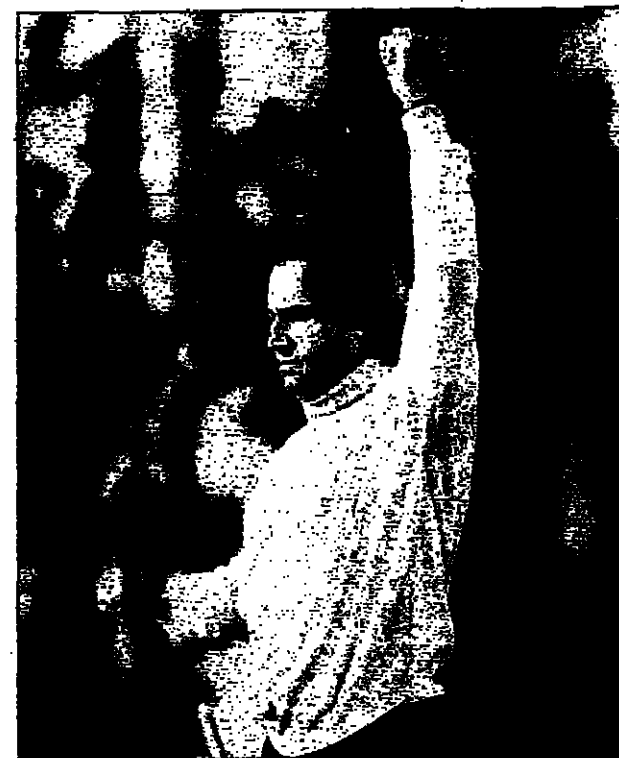
Signor Muti, who has collaborated with Signor De Simone on many operas, said the collection was a unique and irreplaceable record. "There are vast numbers of unique autographed manuscripts, and rare early copies

of printed music. Renaissance treatises on the art of music, letters from the greatest composers and musicians, opera libretti... incredible riches! But it is all uncatalogued, unedited and in desperate need of restoration."

At the Conservatoire, an elegant if crumbling oasis of 18th-century calm just off the bustle of a rundown Naples side-street, Signor De Simone points out the cracks in the walls and ceilings which date from the Naples earthquake of 1680. "With Muti's help I am trying to save a national treasure," he said. "But absurdly we are classified as a school library, and come under the Ministry of Education, not the Ministry of Culture. So we get no staff or funding from the state. We have one librarian, but we can only afford to pay him to come 12 hours a week."

Appointed a year ago, Signor De Simone, 63, is worshipped by his students, who are relieved that a musician has been put in charge and not a colourless bureaucrat. This spring he has been staging an opera-bouffe by Donizetti at the San Carlo Theatre.

A small, birdlike man with a black cape draped theatrically over his shoulders, he talks non-stop about his musical passions, including the folk music of the Campania, the Naples region. He has astonished local people by inviting schoolchildren to come into the Conservatoire for music lessons in the afternoon. "I get a lot of support



Riccardo Muti: 'Desperate need of restoration'

from Antonio Bassolino, the mayor, who has offered help with restoring the building. But we need help with the archives too. There is no air conditioning and this place burns like an oven in summer."

Signor De Simone has rescued a remarkable manuscript from the basement and put them on display: a tiny ebony harp by Stradivari (thought to be the only one he ever made), Wagner's visiting card (he was at the Conservatoire while writing *Parsifal*), a plaster cast of Verdi's hands, Scarlatti's marble inkstand, castanets used by the Bourbon Queen Maria Carolina to dance the tarantella, and a pair of embroidered

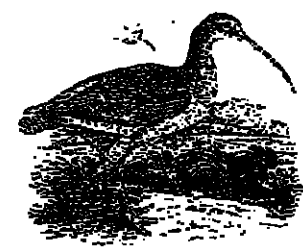
braces that were Bellini's. But according to Signor Muti, the library is in a precarious state. "There is a grave danger that it will be lost irretrievably," he and Signor De Simone wrote in a joint appeal to the Italian Government. "They are prepared to make a noise — literally: at the end of last year Signor De Simone took his brass and percussion students down to the San Carlo on the first night of the new season, and while opera-goers streamed in to hear Pavarotti in Puccini's *Tosca*, they held up placards and banners about the plight of the Conservatoire. "Then we played the triumphal march from Verdi's *Aida* — very loudly."

### Nature notes

Curlews are nesting on the moors: their four blotchy eggs lie in the form of a cross in a hollow in the heather. The male performs song flights above the nest, its song trilling out faster and faster as it climbs, hovers and glides to earth again.

Lapwings have four eggs similarly arranged in their nests in the fields. The chicks run and hide in the grass soon as they hatch, but it takes a month before they are large enough to fly. Chaffinches are nesting in the forks of apple trees, and greenfinches building their bulky nests in dense evergreens. The last summer visitors are back, with grasshopper, and beetles making their high-pitched, reeling song in marshy scrub, and wood warblers singing in the beech woods.

Goulden rose bushes are in bloom: the roses have a mass of small, creamy flowers in a long, and an outer ring of large white



The curlew

flowers. Early purple orchid is out in woods and on roadsides: it has purple, pink or white flowers on its long stalk, and boldly spotted leaves. The four-petalled yellow flowers of tormentil are common in grassy places, and the first orange-coloured, small heath butterflies are flitting over it.

### Memorial services

Dame Penelope Jessel  
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Dame Penelope Jessel, a former international officer of the Liberal Party, was held on Saturday at the Church of St Giles, Oxford. Canon Ralph Stevens officiated. Mr Adam Buncher read the lesson. Mr Stephen Jessel, son of Dame Penelope, read by T.S. Eliot. Mrs Pat St John read *Remember Me* by Christina Rossetti and Mrs Elizabeth Gray read *Forever There* by Juanita De Long. Mr Eric Dehn, Mrs Maggie Ford, Mrs Christina Baron and Mr Martin Well gave addresses.

Among those present were: Mr and Mrs David Jessel (son and daughter-in-law), Ben and Robert Jessel (grandsons), Mrs Christine Whitfield (sister) and many other friends and colleagues.

Professor Geoffrey Bond  
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Professor Geoffrey Bond, Emeritus Fellow of Pembroke College and a former Public Orator of Oxford University, was held on Saturday at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford. The Rev Dr John Platt, Chaplain of Pembroke College, officiated. Miss Catherine Bond (daughter) read *Remember Me* by Christina Rossetti, and Mr Dan Wilson, a Pembroke undergraduate, read from the words of W.B. Yeats. Sir Robert Caswell gave an address. Among those present were: Mrs Bond (widow), Mr and Mrs King (son and daughter-in-law), Dr Elyse Bond (daughter), Dr Ian Bond (son), Mr and Mrs Hugh King (son and daughter-in-law), Ben and Robert Jessel (grandsons), Mrs Christine Whitfield (sister) and many other friends and colleagues.

Anniversaries and service luncheons and dinners are on the facing page

### Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.L. Bullock and Lady Georgina Murray  
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs Michael Bullock, of Westmains of Huntingtower, Perth, and Georgina, only daughter of the Earl and Countess of Mansfield and Mansfield, Stone Palace, Perth.

Mr T.J. Brennan and Miss G.S. Perceval Maxwell  
The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Brennan, of Wiltshire, and Miss G.S. Perceval Maxwell, RN, and Mrs Perceval Maxwell, of Holt, Wiltshire.

Major W.A. Grace and Miss P.P.A. Shakerley  
The engagement is announced between William, younger son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Grace, of Frampton, Dorset, and Philippa, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Shakerley, of Leighton, Powys.

Mr R.E.Q. Gurney and Miss S.A. Mahood  
The engagement is announced between Robert, Edward Gurney, son of Mr and Mrs David Gurney, of Broadwell Hall, Norfolk, and Samantha, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Mahood, of Finchampstead, Berkshire.

Lieutenant R.A. Lushman, RN, and Miss F.M. McMichael  
The engagement is announced between Robina, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Lushman, of Cliffe, Perthshire, and Fiona, daughter of Professor and Mrs Andrew McMichael, of Beckley, Oxfordshire.

Mr E.H.S. Milliken and Miss L.J. Preece  
The engagement is announced between Hugh, youngest son of the late Mr Julian Milliken and of Mrs Julian Milliken, of Abinger Hammer, Surrey, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Fraser, of Weybridge, Surrey.

Mr A.G.R. Windham and Miss A.P.M. Hoare  
The engagement is announced between Anne, elder son of Mr and Mrs William Windham, of Glesbury-on-Wye, Powys, and Arabella, daughter of Mr and Mrs Francis Hoare, of Loughborough, Leicestershire.

### Church in Wales

The Rev Paul Noble Thompson, Vicar of Llanharan, with Peterston Super Mare, will be licensed to the Parish of Barry All Saints, from July 1, and also be Diocesan Youth Chaplain for three years.

The Rev Elfred Hughes, Vicar of Llanharan, retired through ill health on May 1.

### Church news

Appointments  
The Rev David Berriman, Team Rector, Coventry East (Coventry) to be Team Rector, Leicester, The Abbey, and Priest-in-Charge, Leicester St Paul's (Leicester). The Rev Kester Carruthers, Rec-

### Marriages

Mr F.A.C. Perry and Miss E.C. Rhind-Tutt  
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Wargrave, Berkshire, of Mr Fergus Perry, younger son of the Hon Michael and Mrs Perry, of Appia, Argyle, to Miss Emma Rhind-Tutt, daughter of Dr and Mrs John Rhind-Tutt, of Wargrave. The Rev John Ratings officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, and Mr James Gardiner was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in the Caribbean.

Mr N. Corvelli and Miss A. Davies  
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 10, 1997, at the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Bolder, Hampshire, of Mr Nicholas Corvelli, elder son of Colonel and Mrs David Corvelli, to Miss Anna Davies, elder daughter of Mr W.T. Davies, and Dr Judith M. Foy, Canon William Norman, Preacher of the Inn, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs Louise Wigan, Mrs Josephine Mansfield, Josephine, Mary MacLaughlin and Lowri, Daniel and Manqo Davies. Mr James Corvelli was best man.

A reception was held at the Old Hall, Lincoln's Inn, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R. Chaplin and Miss L.M. Prouldove  
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 10, 1997, at the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Bolder, Hampshire, of Mr Robert Chaplin, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Chaplin, of Cliffe, Perthshire, and Fiona, daughter of Professor and Mrs Andrew McMichael, of Beckley, Oxfordshire.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Charlotte Woodland, Douglas Lawson, Rowan Lawson and James Wain, Mr Henry Lawson was best man.

A reception was held at Boldre Hill.

Mr N.D. Pasha and Miss S.M. Norris  
Nuptial Mass was celebrated in the Eglise St Sixte, Paris, France, after the marriage, at Paris Marie on Saturday, May 3, 1997, of Mr Nicholas Pasha, son of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Pasha, and Mrs Elizabeth R. Pasha, of Denver, Norfolk, to Miss Sophie Madras Norris, daughter of the late Mr David Joseph Norris and of Mrs Robert M. Norris, of Paris, France.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Andrew Norris, was attended by Miss Emily Norris, Mr David Coates was best man.

A reception was held at the Chateau la Motte, Montpelier, France, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr Westland and Mrs W. Westland and Mrs W. Westland to be also Assistant Rural Dean of Ripon (Ripon).

Canon John Eagle to be Canon Rector of Winchester Cathedral on his retirement on October 19 as Industrial Chaplain of the South Hampshire Industrial Mission.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880  
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

## PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 982  
FAX: 0171 481 9313

**BIRTHS**  
BULLMAN - On May 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Stobina (nee McMichael), and Timothy, a son, Charles, a brother for Johnny.

**PERNELL** - On May 8th, to London (nee Subramaniam), Anthony, a son, William Kenyon, a brother for Oliver, Hugh and Edward.

**LEIGH** - On 4th May at Peterborough Hospital, to Susan (nee Ward), and Matthew, a daughter, Rosie Beatrice, a sister for Alice Catherine.

**MEDGOWALL** - On May 7th in Essex, to Tina and Ian, a daughter, Lisa, a sister for Yvonne and Tara.

**PEEL** - On the 8th May 1997 at St James's Hospital, London, to Mrs Jack Peel, and Robert, a son, Alexander Lawrence.

**SYMONS** - On May 2nd in Reading, to Mrs John Symons, and Peter, a son, and a daughter, Anna, a sister for John.

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
"55, 71 annos per semper, 7"

**DEATHS**  
ARMITAGE - Edith died peacefully in the loving care of The Hall, Thornton-le-Dale, her home for the past 10 years, on Thursday 8th May 1997 at the age of 94 years. Beloved wife of the late Mr. Armitage. Funeral service on Friday 12th May 1997 at 11.00 am at St. Nicholas Church, Thornton-le-Dale. Enquiries to: Mrs. Armitage, 10, The Hall, Thornton-le-Dale, York YO26 6JH.

**BARRETT** - Phoebe (nee Miller) On May 9th in Galveston, Texas, USA, after a long illness, aged 87. Much loved wife of the late Louis Charles Barrett and the late Raymond Barrett. Devoted mother of Jonathan and Stephen Barrett. Much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. No letters please. Funeral service on May 12th at 10.30 am at St. John's Church, Galveston, Texas. Enquiries to: Mrs. Barrett, 10, The Hall, Thornton-le-Dale, York YO26 6JH.

**DEATHS**  
FURNESS - Donald Raymond (Maurice) Furness DSO, DFC, suddenly on May 6th 1997, on the eve of his 85th birthday. Beloved husband of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved father of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved grandfather of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved great-grandfather of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved uncle of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved cousin of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved friend of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved neighbour of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved colleague of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved mentor of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved confidant of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved advisor of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved supporter of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved encourager of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved inspirer of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved motivator of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved leader of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved role model of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). Beloved hero of Mrs. Furness (nee Jones). 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## OBITUARIES

## LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER MYLES OSBORN

Lieutenant-Commander Myles Osborn, DSO, DFC, DSC, wartime naval pilot died on May 2 aged 82. He was born in Lytham St Anne on December 15, 1914.

It was while flying a Swordfish with 829 Squadron from the aircraft carrier *Formidable* that Myles Osborn took part in the Battle of Cape Matapan on March 28, 1941, for which he was awarded the DSC. Admiral Cunningham, naval C-in-C in the Mediterranean, had learnt from Ultra decrypts that an Italian force, led by the fast battleship *Vittorio Veneto*, had sailed out to attack British convoys.

Cunningham intended that an advance squadron of four Allied cruisers should try to lure this force towards his three battleships, which were naturally immensely superior in gunpower. At 1500 hours, just as the Italian cruisers and battleships were assailing Cunningham's cruisers, 829's five attack aircraft — three Albacores and Osborn's two Swordfish — spotted the Italian battleship and attacked with torpedoes.

The intervention was decisive. Osborn led his sub-flight through heavy ack-ack fire towards the *Veneto*, his slow biplane "Stringbags" (Swordfish) drawing enemy fire. Although his torpedo missed, one faster Albacore hit the target close to her bows and the Italian battleship limped back to port, taking with her a cruiser escort which might have been more usefully employed in the subsequent engagement.

At dusk 829's aircraft returned and found and crippled the heavy cruiser *Pola*. She was later sunk by British destroyers. In a night action, the *Pola*'s two sister cruisers, which had been sent to her aid, and two Italian destroyers were sunk. After the victory of Cape Matapan the Italian fleet ceased to pose a threat in the Mediterranean.

Osborn's father Ashby had been ranching in Canada when the First World War broke out, but he crossed the Atlantic and joined the Wiltshire Regiment, one of Kitchener's first 100,000 volunteers. He was killed in May 1917 in Mesopotamia.

Brought up by his mother Marjorie, who never remarried, George Myles Thomas Osborn passed through the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, between 1927 and 1931. His mother lost her savings in the Great Crash but the college chaplain was her brother and he paid for her son to complete his training. After serving in the Fleet as a midshipman, Osborn was recommended for a course in flying at Greenvale and subsequently served in various aircraft carriers.

At the outset of war "Wozzie" Osborn (the nickname was a reference to a favourite passage in *Winnie the Pooh*) was with 829 Squadron RN



Osborn, centre front row, and pilots and observers of his squadron in front of a Seafire shortly after the war

in the Mediterranean, first in *Ark Royal*, then *Illustrious*. By the time of Matapan, he was one of the Navy's most experienced pilots and a natural leader. Attacking convoys and shipping supplying Axis forces in North Africa, Osborn believed in dropping his torpedo as close as 250 yards from the enemy and always from the regulation 60 feet. This called for rare flying skills and considerable sangfroid. Flying at around 90 mph, the Swordfish offered a slow, bulky and combustible target for enemy anti-aircraft gunfire.

During the Battle of Crete, *Formidable* was badly damaged by Stukas and she was sent to the USA for repairs. No 829 Squadron was disbanded. Osborn and four other experienced pilots joining 830 Squadron in Malta, at the beginning of June 1941. His first foray from Malta was a night attack against a large ship, steaming south at nine knots with all its lights burning brilliantly. Osborn spotted the red cross on her hull which denoted a hospital ship. Nevertheless he was ordered to attack —

intelligence had reported that Axis hospital ships might be carrying troops and arms. The independently-minded Osborn did not consider the target fair game and deliberately aimed his torpedo to miss astern. The squadron war diary blamed such poor marksmanship on "indiscipline". Over the next few months Osborn led numerous attacks on Axis ships, destroying at least 50,000 tons of enemy shipping carrying cargoes for Rommel's troops in North Africa. This earned him a DSO.

One night he found and sank an enemy merchant ship of 5,000 tons and a destroyer alongside her with a single torpedo, despite appalling visibility and a dense destroyer smoke screen. His repeated close range attacks on tankers and warships within Tripoli and Syracuse harbours called for the utmost skill and daring, through intense AA fire and a dense balloon barrage.

Osborn's luck ran out on the night of November 11, 1941, thanks to the stubbornness of a new squadron CO who insisted that the course he had

set would lead his four Swordfish back to Malta. Instead it resulted in their running out of fuel and ditching off the coast of Sicily. One crewmember was killed. Osborn intended to overpower the Italian coastal patrol that fished them out, but found he had lost the use of his legs through exhaustion. Osborn was incarcerated first in Italy, then after Mussolini's overthrow — in Germany. He made numerous escape attempts, being desperate to get back to the fight. He found that a persistent obstacle was the senior British officer; he was "like a senior prefect sucking up to the Head" — in this case the German Commandant — he later recalled.

Osborn retired from the navy as a lieutenant-commander in 1947, and joined the Colonial Service, serving first in Sierra Leone, then in Singapore and lastly for ten years in Malaya, where he was a District Officer. During the Emergency, he was involved in counter-insurgency, particularly with ensuring the loyalty of rural populations.

After independence he left the Colonial Service and in 1963 was employed under the Colombo Plan (the Commonwealth initiative of 1950 to promote social and economic development in Asia and the Pacific) as "Hill Tribes adviser" to the Laotian Government, increasingly threatened by the Communist Pathet Lao. In fact he reported to M16. He was an expert on communist infiltration, his Malayan experience had taught him that the "hearts and minds" and the allegiance of the people were crucial.

For his work with M16 Osborn was appointed OBE. He retired to Spain in 1971. Myles Osborn was a short, forceful man with an impatient intelligence who dominated a room through charm and wit. His undiplomatic boozing parties in Vientiane were legendary. Only a succession of strokes in his last years reduced his physical and mental energy.

He married Pamela Dolman, née Sturges, the widow of an RAF officer, in 1947. He is survived by her and by their daughter.

## GENEVRA CAWS

Genevra Caws, QC, barrister, died of a thrombosis on April 14 aged 48. She was born on February 21, 1949.

GENEVRA CAWS was considered by many to be the outstanding woman barrister of her generation. And, if her name was less well known to the public at large than that of some of her contemporaries, it was because of her range of qualities — the most outstanding of which was her modesty.

The daughter of Richard Caws, a chartered surveyor who was for 26 years a Crown Estate Commissioner, and his wife Fiona, she was christened Genevra Fiona Penelope Victoria, but was always known as Jenny.

She was educated at Northing Hill and Ealing High School, where she was an outstanding pupil, and of which she subsequently became a local governor. Awarded an exhibition in Classics to Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, she went up in 1966 at the age of 17 to read law.

Her Oxford career was one of unblemished academic success. As the first woman to be elected to such a position in the Oxford University Law Society, she greatly enjoyed the title of Mistress of Moots. She won a distinction in Law Moderations, the Gibbs Law Scholarship, and a first in the Honour School of Jurisprudence in 1969.

A Duke of Edinburgh scholar of the Inner Temple, she did her first pupillage with Gordon (now Lord) Slynn, then Treasury Solicitor, at No 1 Hare Court, and then with David (now Mr Justice) Keene at Gray's Inn Chambers, now 4-5 Gray's Inn Square, where she spent the rest of her professional life.

While awaiting the interview for a scholarship from Inner Temple, she met her husband James Curtis, QC, who invited her out to tea. They married in 1985.

Jenny Caws developed a wide-ranging practice in commercial, employment, competition and administrative law, and featured in many reported cases. She was also well-known in the field of professional negligence and was recently described in a law journal as the "first choice on any case of substance".

She took silk in 1991. Shortly after she had put in her

application, she was invited by the Attorney-General to become Junior Counsel to the Inland Revenue — the second most senior appointment open to the Junior Bar on the common law side. Had the invitation come a few weeks earlier, she might have accepted it; but after arduous consideration, she decided to pursue her chosen course and duly became a Queen's Counsel in the next Easter list.

The success she achieved in the front row can be seen by enumerating the clients who sought in recent years her services for important cases: the Law Society, the Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise, the Further Education Funding Council, government departments and various local authorities.

Between 1993 and 1995 she acted for the Director-General of Fair Trading in the Restrictive Practices Court in contempt proceedings brought against 13 ready-mixed concrete suppliers. This was one of the largest litigation actions in the history of the Office of Fair Trading and resulted in record fines. In 1996 she acted for the Director-General of Fair Trading in bringing to an end the Net Books Agreement. She was elected a bencher of her Inn, the Inner Temple, in 1996.

She was at home in Colin Rogers, Gloucestershire, where she and her family lived and farmed at weekends, as she was in her professional life in Chambers. She loved the beauty and simplicity of life in the country and particularly gardening and wild flowers. She and her husband became expert in sheep breeding, which she studied and on which she grew very knowledgeable. She was a voracious reader. She was also a proficient fisherman and skier and it was in Val d'Isère, Switzerland, while on a skiing holiday, that she suddenly died.

Jenny Caws was a formidable lawyer. She had many strengths as an advocate, a gentle but firm voice and calm judgment. But what was best about her as a barrister, was what was best about her as a human being: patience, reasonableness, a courteous capacity to listen and a real warmth and understanding.

She is survived by her husband, a nine-year-old daughter, her parents, and a brother and a sister.

## SRI MADHAVA ASHISH

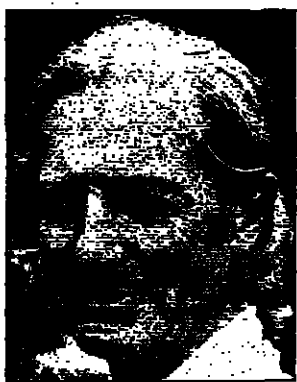
Sri Madhava Ashish, British-born Hindu monk and Himalayan hill farmer, died at Miriala, near Almorat, Uttar Pradesh, on April 13 aged 77. He was born in Edinburgh on February 23, 1920.

BORN Alexander Phipps into a British Army family and educated in England, Madhava Ashish devoted his life to Indian esoteric thought, and to farming and conservation in the Himalayas.

His methods eventually began to be copied by other hill dwellers and, in some areas at least, erosion of the terrain began to be halted. He and his team were honoured by the President of India in 1992 with the Padma Shri Award.

Alexander Phipps was the son of Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. Phipps, Royal Artillery. He was educated at Sherborne, after which he trained as an engineer at the Chelsea Aeronautical Engineering College. He initially worked on testing aircraft in England before transferring to aircraft production at Dum Dum in India.

After the war he toured India and was captivated by the life at the ashram at Uttara Brindaban, in the corner of India between the borders of Tibet and Nepal.



The ashram, close to the 24,000ft Mt Nanda Devi peak, was run by Sri Krishna Prem, and after his death in 1965, by Ashish, the name Alexander had taken when he became a monk.

As a hill farmer he had become a pioneer of conservation in the Himalayas. The tragedy of the Himalayas is over-cropping by domestic animals which wander unchecked, making it impossible for younger plants to replace older trees when they are felled, leading to erosion on a catastrophic scale. Because of the relationship between the ashram and the village Ashish was able to enclose the village land on the mountain so that hungry domestic animals could not browse destructively, at will.

He then built a zoo in

reverse, with the wild animals on the outside of the cages (sometimes asleep on top of them) and the domestic animals restrained inside, with their food being harvested and brought to them to feed. The cages, tiger and leopard proof, were protected by Bhutia dogs which he acquired from the nomadic herdsmen.

Through this enclosure he created a green mountain which, when seen from the air, stands out like an oasis in the desert. This experiment in hill farming is successfully being copied by others. The subject of agriculture, for which he wrote much of the curriculum, is now taught in the mountain schools.

Nominally a Hindu, he saw all religions as having a common goal. He spent much time meditating and helping others to search for their path to God. He became interested in Indian esoteric thought after he first visited the ashram of Ramana Maharshi, and continued his studies with Sri Krishna Prem with whom he was co-author of *Man the Measure of all Things*.

He was the author of *Man, Son of Man*, a *Cosmology*, and published papers on *The Secret Doctrine as a Contribution to World Thought* and *The Guru as Exemplar and Guide to the Term of Human Evolution*.

Dr David Lewes, consultant cardiologist, died on April 22 aged 81. He was born on August 26, 1915.

AN AFFABLE, pipe-smoking doctor with an eclectic array of interests, David Lewes brought a warmth, humanity and enthusiasm to everything he did. As a cardiologist at Bedford Hospital he excelled, always pushing at the frontiers of knowledge. It was he who — using nutmeg graters as a prototype — invented multi-point electrodes for electrocardiographs. These were used by NASA on its space missions.

A keen amateur botanist, he published, among other things, a study of mushroom poisoning and a paper on exploding marrows. A humanist, he argued the innocence of James Hanratty, convicted of the A6 murders.

David Steel Lewes was born in Sydney, Australia, and educated at King's School, Paramatta, in New South Wales. It was as an amateur chemist that he really excelled as a schoolboy and his father — though strictly Victorian in his values (he once named his son for calling him Daddy) — encouraged him, allowing him access to any chemicals he wanted. Lewes would use home-made explosives to en-

tertain his friends.

This inspired his elder brother, Jack, to follow suit and eventually led to him inventing the Lewes Bomb which gave the Special Air Service teeth in sabotaging enemy installations.

In 1934 Lewes entered Christ Church, Oxford, graduating with first-class honours in medicine. His final year was spent researching into Vitamin C and its effect, under Sir Solly Zuckerman.

He went on to work at the London Hospital, where he gained a wide general medical experience, though his particular interest was cardiology. He qualified in 1941, and six months later found himself working at Southend General Hospital. There he was responsible for running the entire medical side of the hospital's work.

He became a member of the Royal College of Physicians and, in 1944, joined the RAF. Posted to the Azores he found himself faced with a sudden mass outbreak of typhoid and salmonella. It was he who located the source of the outbreak — a cook in a restaurant kitchen — and helped to treat and control it.

After the war, Lewes was made Patterson Research Scholar in the cardiac department of the London Hospital. In 1948 he was appointed tutor

in medicine and senior registrar at the Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith. But, an enthusiastic amateur botanist, he also worked at this time on a study for Kew Gardens of a type of exploding marrow. It was this article which was to catch the attention of the selection committee for Bedford General Hospital. Impressed by his original and inquiring mind, they appointed him consultant physician in 1952.

Humanitarian in outlook, Lewes was deeply concerned about injustice. After the apprehension of James Hanratty, Lewes was affronted when national newspapers seemed to condemn Hanratty before his trial. Having a few weeks leave at that time, Lewes sat in court throughout the entire proceedings. He had a photographic memory and perceived what he thought were anomalies in the case brought against Hanratty. His thoughts on the matter were extensively used by Paul Foot.

Lewes also wrote many articles on cardiology and other subjects in *The Lancet* and *The British Medical Journal*, publishing at least one a year until his retirement in 1981.

He is survived by his wife Daphne, and by three daughters and a son.



## Anniversaries

**BIRTHS:** John Bell, surgeon, Edinburgh, 1763; Edward Lear, artist and poet, London, 1812; Florence Nightingale, hospital reformer, Florence, 1820; Dante Gabriel Rossetti, poet and painter, founder member of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, London, 1828; Jules Massenet, composer, Montaud, France, 1842; Gabriel Fauré, composer, Permes, Ariège, France, 1845; Lincoln Ellsworth, polar explorer, Chicago, 1880; Sir Lennox Berkeley, composer, Oxford, 1903; Tony Hancock, comedy actor, Birmingham, 1924.

**DEATHS:** Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford, statesman, executed, London, 1641; August Wilhelm Schlegel, poet, Bonn, 1845; Sir Charles Barry, architect of the Gothic revival.

London, 1860; Bedrich Smetana, composer, Prague, 1884; Amy Lowell, poet, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1925; Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch, man of letters, Fowey, Cornwall, 1944; Erich von Stroheim, actor and film director, Maurepas, France, 1957; John Massfield, Poet Laureate 1930-67, near Abingdon, Oxfordshire, 1967; John Smith, leader of the Labour Party 1992-94, London, 1994.

The General Strike ended, 1926.

Alcoholics Anonymous was founded by William Wilson in Akron, Ohio, 1935.

The coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, 1937.

The minimum voting age in Britain was lowered from 21 to 18, 1969.

## Service dinners

The Queen's Royal Lancers Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Swinburn, Colonel of The Queen's Royal Lancers, presided at the annual reunion dinner of The Queen's Royal Lancers Regimental Association held on Saturday at the Waldorf Hotel.

The Queen's Royal Hussars Major-General Richard Barron, Colonel of The Queen's Royal Hussars, presided at the annual dinner of the Regimental Association held on Saturday at the Mount Royal Hotel, Marble Arch.

No 16 RFC and RAF Association

Air Marshal Sir David Cousins, President of No 16 RFC and RAF Association, accompanied by Lady Cousins, entertained guests at the annual dinner held on Saturday at the RAF Club.

British Army Civil Affairs Group Brigadier A.S. Craig, Commander Engineers Land, was the principal guest at the inaugural dinner of the British Army Civil Affairs Group held on Saturday at the Royal Engineers Officers Mess, Minley Manor.

Lieutenant-Colonel P.W. Hayward Broomfield, Commanding Officer, was in the chair.

## Service luncheon

1st Gurkha Rifles Major-General D.G.T. Horsford presided at a luncheon held on Saturday at the Gurkha Museum, Winchester, to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1st Gurkha Rifles Regimental Association.

## FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

BORN MAY 12, 1820

It is 100 years ago to-day since Florence Nightingale was born. When Queen Victoria, her senior by a year, came to the Throne, she was a girl of 17. Nineteen years later she came home from the Crimea, having made her name, for all the world as long as the world shall last, an abiding symbol of the highest and purest womanly devotion. From then to the day of her death, only four years before the storm of the Great War burst upon Europe, she was almost always confined to her house. The strain of her work for the sick and wounded and dying soldiers had sapped her bodily strength. But the flame of her soul was never quenched. The lamp that she had lit at Scutari burnt steadily to the end. Those 54 years of invalid life in Mayfair were even more fruitful in service to the Army and humanity in general than the long and strenuous and agonizing months of her toil at the

## ON THIS DAY

May 12, 1920

The centenary of the birth of Florence Nightingale provided an opportunity for a reappraisal of her work, and a salute to one who "being dead yet speaketh".

seat of war. When, a year or two before her death, she received the Order of Merit, the fact that she was still alive came as something of a surprise to most of her fellow-countrymen. For them she was the Lady of the Lamp. They knew of what she had done for the Army of the Crimea, with Sidney Herbert at the War Office and Dr. W.H. Russell in the field to help her. Comparatively few of the rank and file were aware of the existence of that marvellous driving force which by years of incessant labour revolution-

ized the whole system of medical and surgical and sanitary treatment in the Army, and made nursing the honoured and highly efficient profession that it now is. "Such a head!" wrote Queen Victoria. "I wish we had her at the War Office." As it was, she was outside its walls, but she stormed and conquered it from her bed. She was, and by many still is, looked upon as a gentle, quiet, womanly, self-sacrificing saint. In a sense all of that was true. But the saint was very human. Not her gentleness but her strength won her the victory. It was by her businesslike brain, by her passionate dislike and contempt for feebleness and inefficiency and wrong, no less than by her vision and her great heart, that she brought order out of chaos. She was a fighter and remained a fighter when most women and most men stricken as she was would have turned their faces to the wall. St. Paul rather than St. John was her prototype, and she lives forever as one of the strongest as well as one of the foremost women of the Victorian era and of all time.



